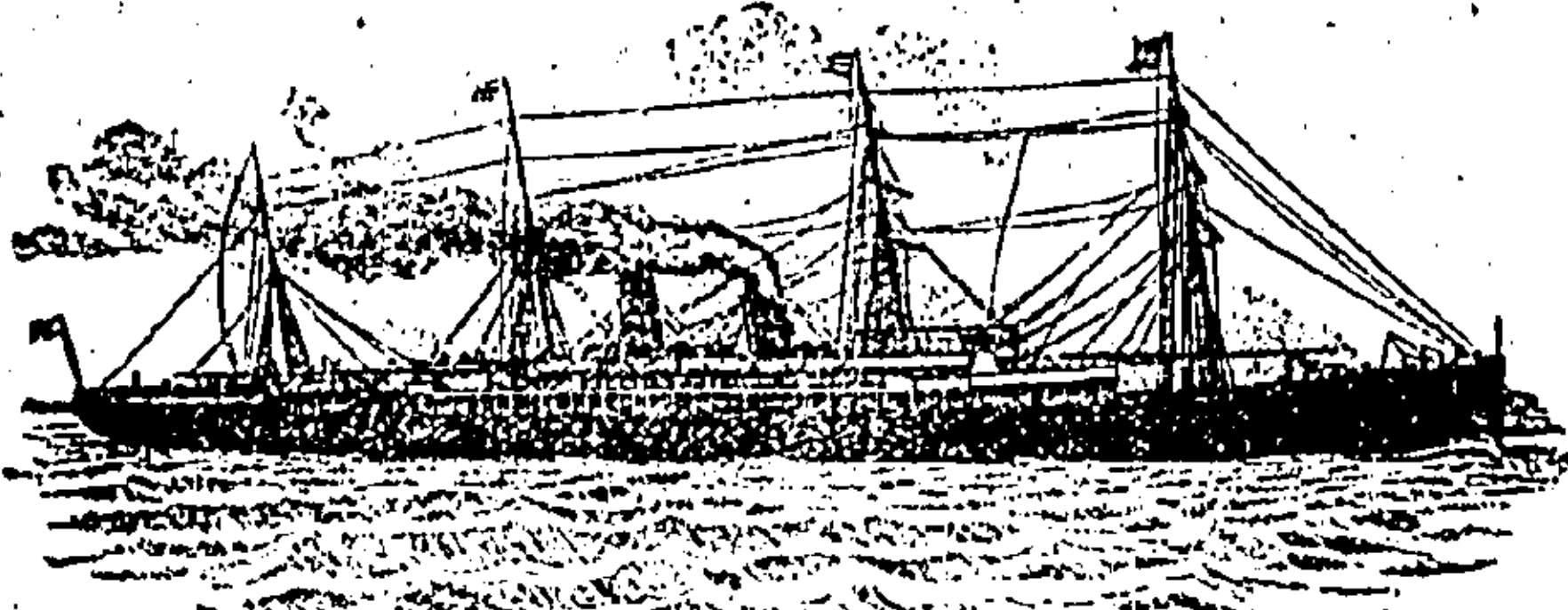


Mails.

U.S. MAIL LINES.



PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO., OCCIDENTAL & ORIENTAL S.S. CO.,
TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

TAKING PASSENGERS AND CARGO TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO
CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA AND EUROPE:

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

"DORIC".....	4,784 Gross Tons.	SATURDAY, 14th November, at Daylight.
"NIPPON MARU".....	6,307 "	TUESDAY, 24th November, at Noon.
"SIBERIA".....	11,234 "	WEDNESDAY, 2nd December, at Noon.
"COPTIC".....	4,352 "	WEDNESDAY, 9th December, at Noon.
"AMERICA MARU".....	6,307 "	FRIDAY, 18th December, at Noon.
"KOREA".....	11,276 "	SATURDAY, 26th December, at Noon.
"GALLIC".....	4,205 "	SATURDAY, 2nd January, 1904, at Noon.
"HONGKONG MARU".....	6,307 "	SATURDAY, 9th January, at Noon.
"CHINA".....	5,060 "	TUESDAY, 19th January, at Noon.

Record Trip Yokohama to San Francisco made by s.s. "KOREA," 11,276 tons, Oct. 18th-28th, 1902; 10 days, 15 hours.

THE O. & O. Company's Steamship "DORIC" will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via MACAO, SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA, YOKOHAMA and HONOLULU, on SATURDAY, the 14th instant, at Daylight, taking Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe. Passengers are allowed to break their journey at any point en route.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States or Canada.

Passengers holding through ORDERS TO EUROPE have the choice of the Overland Rail Routes from San Francisco, including the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY; also the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY on payment of £4 in addition to the regular tariff rate.

Passengers holding Orders for OVERLAND CITIES in the United States have between SAN FRANCISCO and CHICAGO, the option of the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and other direct connecting Railways, and from Chicago to destination the choice of direct lines.

Special rates (First-class only) to European Ports, are granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Consular Services, and European Civil Service Officials located in Asia, and to European Officials in the Service of the Governments of China and Japan.

TO UNITED STATES AND CANADIAN PORTS, Special rates (first class only) are granted and will apply only to Missionaries, Members of the Naval and Military Services, and to Consular and Diplomatic Officials of the Governments of China and Japan.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railway, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Companies' and connecting Steamers.

FEATURES OF THIS LINE.

Southern Route; passengers enjoy out-doors throughout; deck bathing. The call at Honolulu, Oahu, the most fertile and beautiful island of the Pacific. The only line to San Francisco, the greatest port of the Pacific.

Sailings positively on schedule date.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agent of the Companies, Queen's Building.

J. STUART THOMSON, Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 6th November, 1903.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY.'S
ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

SAFETY. SPEED. PUNCTUALITY.

THE FAST ROUTE BETWEEN CHINA, JAPAN AND EUROPE, VIA CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES.

(CALLING AT SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA & VICTORIA, B.C.)

"EMPRESS" Twin Screw Steamships—6,000 Tons—10,000 Horse Power—Speed 14 Knots.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

R.M.S. "EMPRESS OF INDIA".....	6,000 Tons.....	WEDNESDAY, 18th November.
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN".....	6,000 "	WEDNESDAY, 16th December.
"EMPRESS OF CHINA".....	6,000 "	WEDNESDAY, 13th January, 1904.
"ATHENIAN".....	3,882 "	WEDNESDAY, 27th January.
"EMPRESS OF INDIA".....	6,000 "	WEDNESDAY, 10th February.
"TARTAR".....	4,425 "	WEDNESDAY, 24th February.
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN".....	6,000 "	WEDNESDAY, 9th March.
"EMPRESS OF CHINA".....	6,000 "	WEDNESDAY, 30th March.
"EMPRESS OF INDIA".....	6,000 "	WEDNESDAY, 20th April.
"ATHENIAN".....	3,882 "	WEDNESDAY, 27th April.
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN".....	6,000 "	WEDNESDAY, 11th May.

THE magnificent "EMPRESS" Twin-screw Steamships of this Line pass through the famous INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and usually make the voyage YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER (B.C.) in 12 DAYS, ("TARTAR" and "ATHENIAN" 14 DAYS.) saving THREE DAYS TO A WEEK in the Trans-Pacific journey, and make connection at Vancouver with the PALATIAL OVERLAND TRAINS of the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY which leave daily, and cross the Continent FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE ATLANTIC WITHOUT CHANGE. Close connection is made at Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, New York and Boston with all Trans-Atlantic Lines, which passengers to Great Britain and the Continent are given choice of.

Passengers Booked through to all principal points and AROUND THE WORLD. Return tickets to various points at reduced rates, Good for 4, 6, 9 and 12 months.

SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

The attractive features of the Company's route embrace its PALATIAL STEAMSHIPS, (second to none in the World), the LUXURIANCE OF ITS TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS (the Company having received the highest award for same at Chicago World's Exhibition), and the diversity of MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SCENERY through which the Railway passes.

THE DINING CARS and MOUNTAIN HOTELS of this route are owned and operated by the Company, and their appointments and Cuisine are unexcelled.

For further information, Maps, Guide Books, Rates of Passage, &c., apply to

D. E. BROWN, General Agent,
Palliser Street.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.
NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.
OSTASIATISCHER FRACHTDAMPFER DIENST.

(Taking Cargo at through Rates to ANTWERP, AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, COPENHAGEN, LISBON, OPORTO, LONDON, LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, TRIESTE, GENOA, PORTS IN THE LEVANT; BLACK SEA and BALTIC PORTS; NORTH and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.
CANADIA.....	ANTWERP AND HAMBURG.	12th Nov. Freight.
Wagner.....	(Calling at SINGAPORE and COLOMBO).	
MARBURG.....	HAVRE, BREMEN and HAMBURG.	21st Nov. Freight.
Stem.....	(Calling at SINGAPORE and COLOMBO).	
SUEVIA.....	HAVRE and HAMBURG.	1st Dec. Freight.
Bork.....	(Calling at SINGAPORE and PENANG).	
ARAGONIA.....	HAVRE and HAMBURG.	15th Dec. Freight.
Forst.....	(Calling at SINGAPORE and COLOMBO).	
NURNBERG.....	HAVRE and HAMBURG.	29th Dec. Freight.
Jaburg.....	(Calling at SINGAPORE and PENANG).	
AMBRIA.....	HAVRE and HAMBURG.	9th January, 1904. Freight.
Duckstein.....	(Calling at SINGAPORE and COLOMBO).	
NUBIA.....	NEW YORK	About end of December. Freight.
von Hoff.....	Via SUEZ.	

For further Particulars, apply to

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
HONGKONG OFFICE.

No. 1, Queen's Buildings.

Hongkong, 4th November, 1903.

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO AND
WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO
STEAMBOAT CO., LTD. AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

S.S. "HONAM".....	2,363 tons.....	Captain H. D. Jones.
"POWAN".....	2,338 "	G. F. Morrison, R.N.R.
"FATSHIN".....	2,260 "	A. W. Dix n.
"HANKOW".....	3,073 "	C. V. Lloyd.
"KINSHAN".....	2,860 "	J. J. Lovell.

Departures from HONGKONG to CANTON daily at 8 A.M. (Sunday excepted) and at 5.30 P.M. (Saturday excepted).

Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. (Sunday excepted). These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River. Special attention is drawn to their Superior Saloon and Cabin accommodation.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "HEUNGSHAN".....	1,998 tons.....	Captain W. E. Clarke.
Departures from Hongkong to Macao daily at 2 P.M. } Sunday		
Do. from Macao to Hongkong daily at 8 A.M. } excepted.		

CANTON-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "LUNGSHAN".....219 tons.....Captain T. Hamlin:
This steamer leaves Canton for Macao every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at about 7.30 A.M.; and leaves Macao for Canton every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at about 7.30 A.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE H.K. C. AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "SAINAM".....	588 tons.....	Captain B. Branch.
"NANNING".....	2,569 "	C. Butchart.
"TAK HING".....	618 "	R. D. Thomas.

Departures from Canton and Wuchow about five times every week. Round trips take about 5 days. These vessels have Superior Cabin accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.,

18, Bank Buildings, Queen's Road Central, opposite the Hongkong Hotel.

Or of BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents, CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD

Hongkong, 7th November, 1903.

Intimations.

PORTRAITS, GROUPS, ENLARGING, AND
COPYING IN ALL SIZES.

AMATEUR WORK GIVEN SPECIAL

ATTENTION.

FULL LINE OF SUPPLIES

ALWAYS IN STOCK.

ORIENTAL.

COSTUMES AND

FANCY DRAPERIES

FURNISHED.

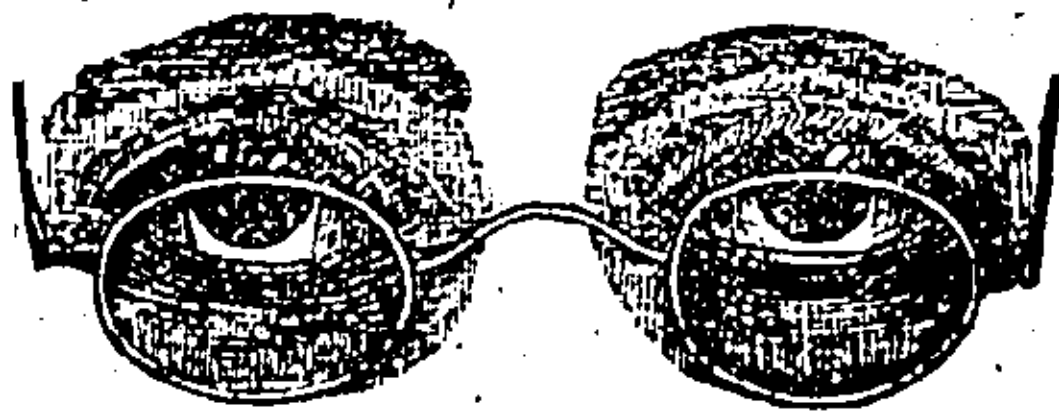
WORK GUARANTEED TO BE

THE BEST IN THE COLONY.

LADIES' SPECIAL TOILET ROOM.

964e] PATRONAGE RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

EYE-SIGHT.



Mr. N. LAZARUS

May be personally consulted for SPECTACLES.

No charge for testing the eyes.

Glasses and frames of all kinds and qualities.

Prices from \$2 upwards.

16, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.

Hongkong, 6th November, 1903.

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN,

PLUNKET'S GAP, the PEAK, near the TRAM TERMINUS, Tel. 56.

For Terms, &c., apply to the

MANAGER.

Hongkong, 2nd July, 1900.

THE CONNAUGHT HOUSE,

QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.

A FIRST CLASS HOTEL SITUATED NEAR THE BANKS AND PRINCIPAL

OFFICES. EXCELLENT CUISINE AND WINES.

Large and lofty Rooms Elegantly Furnished. Hydraulic Elevator.

Hot and Cold Water throughout. Special Rates for Tourists.

Launch Service for Guests.

For Terms, apply to

Hongkong, 1st November, 1902.

THE MANAGER.

[1339c]

'INCANDESCENT GAS LIGHT.

The attention of consumers is drawn to the fact that

the Undersigned, being Sole Agents for

DR. AUER VON WELSBACH Co.,

VIENNA,

THE INVENTORS OF INCANDESCENT

GAS LIGHT.

ARE SELLING THE ONLY GENUINE MANTLES,

The Price of which has been reduced to

FIFTY CENTS per piece.

BEWARE OF INFERIOR IMITATIONS!

KRUSE & Co.,

CONNAUGHT HOUSE.

954d]

Intimations.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.

Length inside, 514 ft. Width of
entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft.
Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to
pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.

Length inside, 375 ft. Width of
entrance, top 60.5 ft.; bottom 45.8
ft. Water on blocks, 28.5 ft. Time
to pump out, 3 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work, and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyd's surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Towboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Works, No. 508; General, No. 376.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A I and A. B. C. (4th).

Yokohama, May 11th, 1903.

[573c]

GO TO THE

KOWLOON HOTEL,

FRANK J. JEWELL,

Manager.

J. W. OSBORNE,

Proprietor.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE

COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that AN EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LIMITED, will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICES, Nos. 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central, Victoria, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th day of November, 1903, at NOON, when the SUBJOINED RESOLUTIONS which were passed at a Meeting held on the 31st October, 1903, will be submitted for confirmation as SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS:—

1. "That the Capital of the Company be increased from \$1,000,000 (divided into 100,000 shares of \$10 each) to \$1,500,000 (divided into 150,000 shares of \$10 each) by the creation of 50,000 new shares of \$10 each to be offered and if accepted to be allotted to the present shareholders of the Company at par in the ratio and proportion of one new share for every two old shares in the Company held by the respective shareholders thereof, the amount payable on each of such new shares respectively to be paid at such time or times and in such manner as the Company by its General Managers may hereafter determine."

2. "That Article No. 82 of the Articles of Association of the Company be cancelled and the following Article substituted therefor:—

"The remuneration of the General Managers shall be a sum not exceeding \$8,000 per annum (which shall cover office rent and salaries of Secretary and other employees) and a commission of 5 per cent. of the net profits of the Company for each year that such profits amount to 7 per cent. of the Capital of the Company."

Dated this 2nd day of November, 1903.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,

General Managers.

1319e]

DEUTSCHE WEINGESSELLSCHAFT

DUHR & CO., COELN.

STOCK ON HAND OF

AHRLEICHART, a red Ahr Wine at \$18.50

GRACHER, Moselle at \$16.50

LAUBENHEIMER, Hock at \$15.00

All per Case of 24 Quarts.

Price Reductions for Larger Orders.

GROSSMANN & CO.

Hongkong, 16th October, 1903.

1259e]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY,

LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 37½ lbs. net \$4.75 ex Factory.

In Bags of 25cbs. net \$2.85 ex Factory.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 15th August, 1903.

119

MADAM FLINT & CO.

IMPORTERS OF FRENCH

MILLINERY AND DRESSMAKING.

MATERIAL ACCEPTED AND DESIGNED

during the Summer Months.

PRICES MODERATE

CONNAUGHT HOTEL: Rooms 4 and 5.

Hongkong, 2nd November, 1903.

1313e]

JUST LANDED.

A FRESH Consignment of MILKMAID

BRAND SWISS MILK

Per Dozen Tins \$2.70 and 23 cents

a Single Tin.

H. RUTTONJEE,

No. 5, D'Aguiar Street,

and

36 and 38, Elgin Road, Kowloon.

Hongkong, 2nd November, 1903.

146

BANK HOLIDAY.

IN accordance with Government Notification No. 713, the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on MONDAY, the 9th November, THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTHDAY OF HIS MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII.

Hongkong, 4th November, 1903.

1322e]

FORNIGHTLY MARKET REPORT.

Cotton.—A moderate business is reported in selected fine staple, say about 400 packages hands at \$25 to \$26 per picul. The unsold stock is estimated at about 1,425 bales.

Yarn.—During the whole of the fortnight ruled steady and prices show a little or no improvement. Holders are still free sellers at current quotations but the demand owing to the present harvest operation is much slackened. Sales during the fortnight of about 2,600 bales. Arrivals about 1,500 bales. The estimated unsold stock is about 35,000 bales. No business is reported in local as well as Japanese yarn.

Malwa Opium.—During the whole of the fortnight ruled firm and sales are reported of new about 5 chests at \$860, 15 chests at \$870, and 33 chests at \$880. Old about 19 chests at \$910, 10 chests at \$940, 40 chests at \$950 and 8 chests at \$960. Older about 15 chests at \$970, 33 chests at \$980, 19 chests at \$990 and 8 chests at \$1,000, and Older about 5 chests at \$1,020, 17 chests at \$1,030, 16 chests at \$1,050, 6 chests at \$1,060 and 10 chests at \$1,070, in all about 259 chests. The unsold stock is estimated at about 733 chests.

Bengal Opium.—Remained firm and prices show a great improvement. Sales are reported of Patna about 806 chests at \$1,095 to \$1,115. Benares about 191 chests at \$1,010 to \$1,124 per chest. The unsold stock is estimated at Patna about 795 chests. Benares about 206 chests.

Persian Opium.—Ruled rather quiet and sales are reported of paper about 30 chests at \$765—5 chests at \$800—and 12 chest at \$810, in all about 47 chests. The stock is estimated at about 2,030 chests.

Miscellaneous Quotations.—

Ivory	...	\$200 to \$700
Horax	...	17 " 18
Vermilion	...	80 1/2
Camphor	...	110 " 112
Senna Leaves	...	7
Olibanum	...	4 1/2 " 26
Saltpetre	...	1 1/2 " 10 1/2
Beans	...	2 1/2 " 3
Cassia	...	16 " 25

Consignees.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES OF CARGO per Steamship

"DORIC" are hereby notified that their Goods are at their risk being discharged into Lighters and/or landed into our Godowns Nos. 1 and 2, at Kennedy Town, (Marine Lot 243), and delivery may be had either from Lighters or from our Godowns upon countersignature of Bills of Lading.

Goods remaining unclaimed after the 12th instant will be subject to rent.

All Claims must be sent in to me on or before the 15th instant or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

J. STUART THOMSON, Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 5th November, 1903. [1266]

BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "SHAWMUT," FROM MANILA.

The above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED, Agents.

Hongkong, 6th November, 1903. [874d]

THE PORTLAND AND ASIATIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "INDRAPURA," FROM PORTLAND (OR.), YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND MOJI.

The above steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

ALLAN CAMERON, General Agent.

Hongkong, 6th November, 1903. [1266c]

A CURE FOR ASTHMA!! GRIMAULT'S

INDIAN CIGARETTES

Asiatic people who suffer from oppression in breathing, stifling sensations, hoarseness, and loss of voice, Nervous coughs, Lauryngitis, Colds, with Wheezing, Bronchitis, Insomnia, Catarrhal affections, and difficulty in expectoration, are promptly relieved by these Cigarettes.

GRIMAULT & CO., Paris, Sold by all Chemists

GRIMAULT'S

Matico Capsules

AND INJECTION

Renowned Physician Grimault's Matico is the most active and at the same time the most powerful remedy in the treatment of Acute and Chronic Discharges. These capsules, unlike Cathartics, have not the inconvenience of producing "Nausea."

MATIO INJECTION is used in recent MATICO CAPSULES in the more chronic cases

GRIMAULT & Co., Paris, Sold by all Chemists

Entimations.

THE ROBINSON PIANO Co., LTD.

NOTE.

ENTIRELY NEW STOCK ARRIVING.

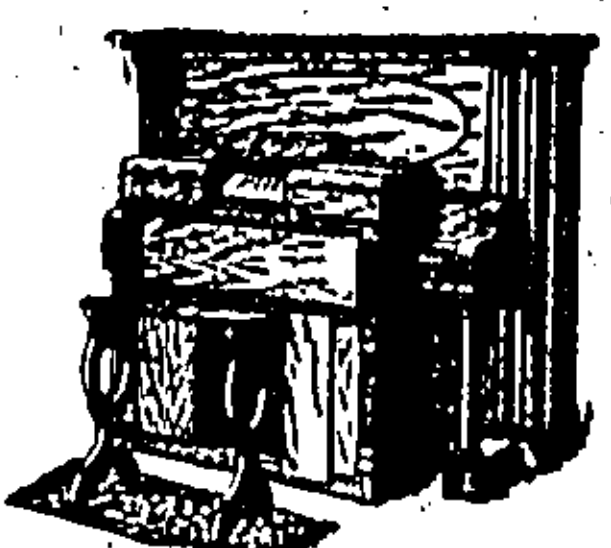
SPECIALLY AND MOST CAREFULLY CHOSEN BY OUR MR. ROBINSON,

NOW IN EUROPE.

GREAT REDUCTIONS

in our present stock of Pianos and Musical Goods.

Our NEW MUSIC STOCK has arrived.



THE APOLLO MASTER PIANO PLAYER

THE BEST OF ALL.

THREE STYLES: PRICE FROM \$450 UP.

PATTI ENDORSES THE APOLLO.

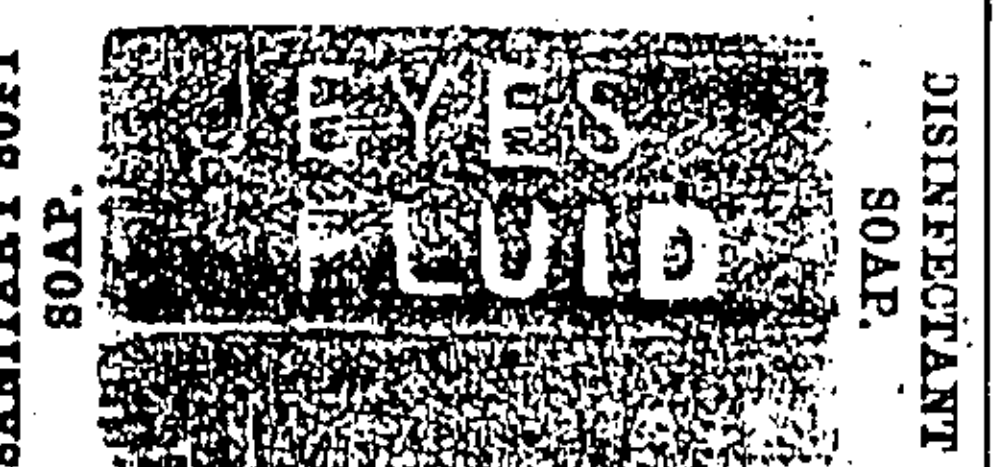
Adelina Patti (Baroness Cederstrom) has given another great testimonial to the Apollo Piano-player. She was so delighted with the instrument that was purchased by her last year that this second testimonial is even stronger than the first one that she gave.

Mme. Patti says that "The Apollo never has given her the slightest trouble and that the new concert grand is one of the most wonderful and perfect piano-players that she has ever seen."

Hongkong, 28th October, 1903. [415c]

NOTICE.

THE BEST PREVENTIVE OF ALL INFECTIOUS DISEASES.



AVOID ALL RISK OF OUTBREAK BY ITS USE.

W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co., Bank Buildings

Hongkong, 28th March, 1903. [121]

F. BLACKHEAD & CO., SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.

PRAYA CENTRAL HONGKONG, SOAP MANUFACTURERS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR HARTMANN'S RAHTJEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION RED HAND BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES, &c., &c., &c.

Sole Agents for FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM

P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUOR SCOTCH WHISKY, &c.

EVERY KIND OF SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK

AT REASONABLE PRICES.

Hongkong, 14th May, 1903. [8]

TSU FAN DENTIST.

PRICE MODERATE—CONSULTATION FREE.

Next to the Hongkong Dispensary, 50, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 28th November, 1902. [1269e]

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

TRADE THERAPION MARK

This successful and highly popular remedy, used in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses everything hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 1 is a perfectly safe and powerful remedy, which, by its action on the urinary organs, effectually purges the system, and is of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases. In dysentery, piles, irritation of the lower bowels, cough, bronchitis, asthma, and some of the more trying complaints of this kind, it will be found astonishingly efficacious, affording prompt relief where other well-tried remedies have been powerless for many months.

THERAPION No. 2 is a powerful purgative, which, by its action on the bowels, purges the system, and is of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases. In dysentery, piles, irritation of the lower bowels, cough, bronchitis, asthma, and some of the more trying complaints of this kind, it will be found astonishingly efficacious, affording prompt relief where other well-tried remedies have been powerless for many months.

THERAPION No. 3 is a powerful purgative, which, by its action on the bowels, purges the system, and is of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases. In dysentery, piles, irritation of the lower bowels, cough, bronchitis, asthma, and some of the more trying complaints of this kind, it will be found astonishingly efficacious, affording prompt relief where other well-tried remedies have been powerless for many months.

THERAPION No. 4 is a powerful purgative, which, by its action on the bowels, purges the system, and is of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases. In dysentery, piles, irritation of the lower bowels, cough, bronchitis, asthma, and some of the more trying complaints of this kind, it will be found astonishingly efficacious, affording prompt relief where other well-tried remedies have been powerless for many months.

THERAPION No. 5 is a powerful purgative, which, by its action on the bowels, purges the system, and is of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases. In dysentery, piles, irritation of the lower bowels, cough, bronchitis, asthma, and some of the more trying complaints of this kind, it will be found astonishingly efficacious, affording prompt relief where other well-tried remedies have been powerless for many months.

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Entimations.

BABIES AND CHILDREN should be fairly plump. They ought to put on fat as fast as they use it up; for fat is fuel, and the burning of it makes power and force. Thin children—even along to the age of eighteen or twenty—are in danger from consumption, and from other wasting complaints. The children who starve, and the young men and women who are consumed—why, the very idea of it is frightful. For such as they there is always what the Bible calls a "mighty famine" in the land. Food, though it may be taken plentifully, does not nourish them. It makes no fat; it gives no strength. To prevent this, to cure this, to save the young ones at the mother's knees, and the bright boys and girls who are just looking at the world with hopeful and ambitious eyes, is the purpose of

WAMPOL'S PREPARATION. Its success is decided and settled. Thousands owe to it life and health. It is palatable as honey and contains the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, extracted by us from fresh cod livers, combined with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites and the Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. In building up pale, puny, emaciated children, particularly those troubled with Anemia, Scrofula, Rickets, and bone and blood diseases, nothing equals it; its tonic qualities are of the highest order. Parents whose children are sick cannot resort to it a day too soon. A Medical Institution says: "We have used your preparation in treating children for coughs, colds and inflammation; its application has never failed us in any case, even the most aggravated bordering on pneumonia. The children like it, they love the taste of it, it looks good to them, and it builds up their bodies; many little children owe their lives to it." The more it is used the less will be the ravages of disease among the people from infancy to old age. Every dose effective. "You cannot be disappointed in it." At all chemists and A. S. Watson & Co., Limited.

THE CHINA & JAPAN TELEPHONE AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG EXCHANGE, OPEN DAY AND NIGHT.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

EXCHANGE LINES, \$100 Per Annum.

PRIVATE LINES, By Arrangement.

NO CHARGE FOR INSTALLATION.

N.B.—A special charge is made for lines of more than average length.

ELECTRIC SUPPLIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION IN STOCK, INCLUDING—

BATTERIES, CHEMICALS, ELECTRIC BELLS, INSULATORS, LIGHTNING CONDUCTORS, SWITCHES, TELEPHONES, WIRE, &c., &c.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

ELECTRIC BELL INSTALLATIONS, Erected and kept in order.

Estimates given for all kinds of Electrical work.

Trained Mechanicians sent to Out-Ports to fit up Installations if required.

NOTE ADDRESS:—2, ICE HOUSE ROAD.

For full Particulars, &c., &c., Apply to W. STUART HARRISON, A.M. INST. C.E., Manager

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1903. [20]

THE HONGKONG STUDIO, HIGHER CLASS PHOTOGRAPHER, 41 & 43, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, TOP FLOOR.

PORTRAITS, GROUPS AND ENLARGEMENTS, AND COPYING IN ALL SIZES.

LARGE SELECTION OF VIEWS ALWAYS ON HAND.

PRICE VERY MODERATE.

Hongkong, 15th September, 1903. [1180e]

Entimation.

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.

1, ICE HOUSE ROAD, HONGKONG.

CABLE ADDRESS.—Telegraph, Hongkong.

THE leading English Newspaper in China

Also widely circulated in Japan, Cochinchina, Ceylon, India and the Far East generally.

A daily newspaper with weekly edition published for despatch by the homeward mail

The daily is recommended as more generally suitable, except for subscribers in Europe or America.

A special feature is made of full and accurate reports of local occurrences, and of matters of general interest.

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

The Hongkong Telegraph is the best medium for advertising in China. It circulates largely among all classes of the community, is the largest daily newspaper and has a wider circulation than any journal in the Far East.

Special attention given to effectively displaying advertisements.

The type used as a standard for setting advertisements is similar to this, unless we are instructed to display the advertisement, when any effective style of type will be adopted.

This standard runs exactly eight lines to the inch, and about eight words to the line.

ADVERTISING RATES. (per inch.)

One week.....\$ 2.85

One month..... 7.20

Two months..... 13.00

Three "..... 20.00

Six "..... 37.50

Twelve "..... 73.00

No charge less than one dollar.

Discount allowed on—

3 Months Contracts..... 5 per cent.

6 "..... 10 "

12 "..... 25 "

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

Notices of Births, Deaths, and Marriages

\$1 each insertion in the Daily

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS OF

**AERATED - -
- - WATERS.**

THE WATER we use is THE PUREST that can be obtained, and is skillfully Filtered on the most scientific principles.

THE MACHINERY employed is of the latest design and most approved type.

THE BEST INGREDIENTS only are used.

**GUARANTEEING
ABSOLUTE
- - PURITY.**

ENGLISH EXPERTS
Manage our Factories, and their practical knowledge and constant supervision enable us to produce waters of unrivalled excellence and purity.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,
LIMITED,
ESTABLISHED 1841.

TELEPHONE NO. 25.
CABLE ADDRESS: "WATER," HONGKONG.
A. B. C. CODE, 4TH EDITION.

ESTABLISHED 1859

A CHEE & CO.,
祥利廣

TEMPORARY STORE:
1ST FLOOR, 12, QUEEN'S ROAD,
(above Messrs. H. Price & Co.)

**FURNITURE
DEALERS.**

DRAWING-ROOM,
DINING-ROOM,
and BED-ROOM
FURNITURE.

ELECTRO-PLATED,
GLASS, and
CHINA WARES.
PASTEUR'S MICROBE-PROOF
FILTERS,
ROCHESTER LAMPS,
WHITE TURKISH TOWELS,
COUNTERPANES,
COOKING RANGES,
KITCHEN UTENSILS, and
HOUSEHOLD REQUISITES.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC
DEPARTMENT.**

DEVELOPING and PRINTING
UNDERTAKEN for AMATEURS.
GOOD WORK.
PROMPT RETURN.

Hongkong, 29th August, 1903. [728d]

**CARMICHAEL AND
CLARKE,**
CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND
SHIPBUILDERS,
SURVEYORS AND CONTRACTORS.

REPAIRS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

TELEGRAMS: "CARMICHAEL," Hongkong.
A. B. C. Code, 4th Edition.
A. 1 Code.
Lipber's Standard Code.
TELEPHONE, 232.
Hongkong, 20th March, 1903. [355e]

THE Beer to drink in the tropics is THE Beer made in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL.

NOTICE.
All communications intended for publication in the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to the Editor, 1, Lee House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.
Ordinary business communications should be addressed to the Manager.
The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE).
DAILY—\$30 per annum.
WEEKLY—\$18 per annum.
The rates per quarter and per month, proportionally.
The daily issue is delivered free when the address is accessible to messenger. On copies sent by post an additional \$1.80 per quarter is charged for postage. The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is 30 cents per quarter.
Single Copies Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

MARRIAGE.
Oct. 7, at Kensington, H. W. P. MATHEW, in (KNEE MAUD), daughter of the late C. H. M. Bosman, formerly of Hongkong.

DEATH.
Sept. 28, at Alcombe, Cress, ISABELLA, widow of G. N. Minto, late of Hongkong.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, NOV. 7, 1903.

STABILITY OF EXCHANGE.

The currency problem continues as the absorbing topic of the day, and many leading financiers in the Colony, whose opinions are entitled to considerable weight, agree with the lengthy report of the Mexican Monetary Commission recently printed in our columns. In their opinion, the arguments adduced in favour of stability of exchange are applicable, in their entirety, to this Colony. They form the incontrovertible basis upon which to build the superstructure of sound finance which China stands so much in need of. Moreover, it has been stated that the constitution of the Commission represents the most notable financiers of the time, whose opinion carries with it a weight and importance that could not be lightly considered. It is generally believed that the United States and Mexico produce, approximately speaking, about two-thirds of the world's supply of silver, this aggregate being estimated at about 170,000,000 ozs. yearly. The production for the year 1902 was 178,000,000 ozs. There seems to be little doubt that controlling as they do so large a proportion of the world's production those two countries can dictate the price of silver for a number of years to come, and by so doing it must necessarily follow that they would also be able to control the ratio of silver produced to that of gold. It is open to argument that such a procedure would be somewhat in the nature of a corner, and that the law of supply and demand would eventually assert itself; but it should be remembered that in the present case the United States and Mexico would be controlling a product peculiar to both countries. Bearing in mind the fiscal legislation, which is so much talked about nowadays on all hands, and the fact that our own sister colony protected the trade in tin by imposing a heavy export duty on the ore produced by the mines of the Malay States, it is at once apparent that a similar attitude might be taken up by the two largest silver-producing countries of the world. Because Mexico and the United States produce the white metal to the enormous extent they do it, therefore, possible for them to regulate the price by putting a heavy export duty or additional Royalty upon it. Then the fact must not be overlooked that the ratio they propose, being double the ratio of the mintage price of silver in any civilised country, would not be kept at a price which could be termed high. The ratio proposed by the Mexican Monetary Commission is, according to the report submitted on 29th August last, from 32 to 36 silver to one gold, and if the United States and Mexico can control the output of silver and are assisted by the other countries of the world, inasmuch as those countries would regulate their purchases of silver for minting purposes, the price of the metal ruling on the London market would range from 26d. per oz. standard to 29½d. per oz. standard, and would be effectively kept between these limits. From this it may easily be seen that although China will be the only silver standard country, which would take the metal to any extent from the various markets of the world, yet exchange in the Chinese Empire would be subject to the control of those markets. Turning to another phase of the complicated question, we have continually heard it stated that the low price of silver, i.e., low exchange in the East benefits the export trade of the Orient; but surely this must be fallacious as where there is an element of uncertainty in the currency of a country that country can never be as prosperous in its export trade or, indeed, any trade as a country that has a stable value of exchange. There can be little doubt that, should China fix a national coinage she will use silver in much larger quantities than hitherto. At present she depends largely upon her supply of silver from the banks, which, naturally, will not import the metal into the Empire unless at some profit to themselves. With a coinage system of her own more silver

would be utilised for currency purposes and greater prosperity to trade would accrue. This is borne out by the recent speech of Lord George Hamilton, in laying the Indian Budget before the House of Commons, a few months since. In support of the argument we may also quote a statement of Mr. Creel, the well-known Mexican banker and financier, and Chairman of the Mexican Commission on International Exchange, who recently stated that the recommendations for a monetary system in China are of the greatest importance, both for the development of the resources of the Chinese Empire and for the growth of her international trade with the gold countries. He points out that, with a stable currency, international trade will grow, a new field for investment will be opened, the natural resources of the silver-using countries will be developed, and that a new era of activity and extension of business will add its energies to the prosperity of the world. The Indian Government have been recently purchasing large quantities of silver for mintage purposes for the simple reason that the trade of the country has enormously increased and consequently requires more currency. Exactly similar conditions would be applicable to China had she a national coinage of her own instead of rough ingots of silver, chopped Mexican dollars and, in fact, anything that is just good enough to go into the melting pot. But as we are all aware, China is a most unwieldy and awkward country with which to deal in the question of currency or, indeed, in any matter at all. But if she refrains from adopting a national coinage for herself she must certainly cannot prevent the producing countries of the world controlling their own output of silver, and thereby regulating the rate of exchange in China in relation to the currency of the West in such a manner as to be conducive to trade. Concerning the position of the Colony it cannot be gainsaid that at present trade in Hongkong is on a most unsatisfactory basis, and there is that dangerous element of speculation owing to the uncertain course of the silver market which is often made the subject of complaint. Having no fixity of exchange business operations are attended with a certain element of gambling. We have heard it stated publicly that the Colony would not divorce itself from China in currency matters, and have frequently wondered if China remains as at present, and given that the silver-producing countries are able to control the output of silver and do control it on the lines indicated, which would give a 25 dollar, what is the object of Hongkong retaining her present system of currency? If we cannot divorce ourselves from China and China cannot break loose from the control exercised over her by the silver markets of the West, then it will be for us to wait until China adopts a universal coinage, and in that case we shall be in the humiliating position of adopting a monetary system organised by the Celestial Government, who, as we have seen, are so far unable to divorce themselves from the influence of the Mexican dollar. But it is generally accepted that certain monetary reforms for Mexico cannot be very much longer deferred, and in the event of that country ceasing to coin the Mexican dollar, we shall have the extraordinary prospect of seeing China without any coin currency at all. Where will she get her coinage from unless she mints it herself? Are we ultimately to revert to the old Mongolian custom of carrying about shoes of sycee and adopt the Chinese tael weight? Of course, it may be argued that the coinage of China can be largely supplied by minting the British dollar in British Mints; but, if we can do that, it will seem strange that we are unable to mint one for ourselves—and that at a fixed relation to the sovereign.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Rev. and Mrs. France returned from England last evening.

A *Cablenews* wire says that Lord Roberts will resign and retire to private life.

DURING the month of October 1,639 inches of rain were recorded at the Observatory.

SENOR J. Batalha de Freitas has left Lisbon to take up the post of Portuguese Minister at Tokyo.

ON the occasion of the King's birthday anniversary next Monday, there will be no issue of the *Hongkong Telegraph*.

ON and from the 1st September, 1904, the fee for the issue of annual licences to shoot and take game will be \$10.

SHOOTING at Selensing, Perak, on the 21st ult., Messrs. Douglas, Hay and Travers bagged 70½ brace of snipe in about 3½ hours.

TWENTY-FIVE applications for publican's and adjunct licences for 1905-04 will be made at the annual licensing sessions on 17th inst.

THE S.S. *Pak-kong* will run an excursion trip to Macao to-morrow leaving Hongkong at 8.30 a.m. and returning from Macao on Monday, at 6.30 p.m.

New Regulations under the Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, 1889, are printed in the *Gazette*.

If you want first class developing and printing go to LeMunyon. Also strictly fresh film.—*Advt.*

THE Hon. L. A. M. Johnston, acting Colonial Treasurer, was duly sworn and took his seat as a member, *ex officio*, of the Executive Council, on 3rd inst.

THE P. and O. S.S. *Chutan* brought the following specie from London for Hongkong—coin silver, \$7,917.

It is stated that Admiral Sir Gerard Noel does not come out till next year to relieve Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge in the command of the China Station.

ACCORDING to the *Manila American* a sufficient number of rifles have been unearthed from beneath bales of hemp in one of the city warehouses to start an insurrection.

MR. SRS. Ramage and Ferguson, Ltd., Leith, have received an order from the Borneo Company, Ltd., to build a passenger and cargo steamer for their Eastern trade.

THE Rev. R. Griffith John, nephew of the Rev. Dr. Griffith John, the well-known Chinese missionary, has been ordained to the Congregational ministry at Luton, Beds.

ORDERS have been given for the cruiser *Argonaut*, on her return to England from the China Station, to carry out special service on the East Indies Station for a short time.

COMMENCING on Monday, the 9th inst., the night steamers to Canton will leave at 5.30 p.m., instead of 6.00 p.m. The night steamer from Canton will leave at 5 p.m. instead of at 5.30 p.m.

MR. Hugh Clifford, C.M.G., of the Federated Malay States Service, has left England to take up the appointment of Acting Colonial Secretary of Trinidad. Mrs. Clifford and family will follow later.

THE *Manchuria*, the gigantic new liner, which is to be added to the great fleet crossing the Pacific, was launched on 1st inst. at Cramp's shipyard, in Philadelphia, she is one of the biggest ships yet built.

AT the instance of P. C. Counsell, the master of the steam launch *Ying Fat* was charged before Mr. Sercombe Smith with carrying 61 passengers in excess of the number permitted by his licence. His Worship imposed a fine of \$250.

A *Cablenews* wire of 2nd inst. reports that the town of Hydro, Oklahoma, has been wiped out by a tornado. The storm burst on the town without a moment's warning and laid low or carried off every building here. Many were injured.

If you want a first class photo of yourself you can get it at LeMunyon's.—*Advt.*

A RECENT Imperial Edict has been issued conferring on Mr. Paul H. King, Commissioner Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, the First Class of the III. Division of the Double Dragon, for services rendered at Canton in 1903.

THE provisional programme of the Royal Geographical Society for the forthcoming session has now been fixed, and amongst forthcoming papers is one by Lieutenant-Colonel C. C. Manifold on "Recent Exploration and Economic Development in Central and Western China."

A NEW banking or rather credit establishment for the Far East has been constituted in Paris. It is called the Credit Foncier et Agricole de l'Indo-Chine, and will have a capital of 10,000,000 fr. divided into shares of 500 fr. It is intended to make advances to landed proprietors, the Government, municipalities, towns, &c.

DR. McFarlane, who went home recently from North China, came through from Tientsin to Holborn Viaduct in 18½ days. But the actual railway journey was two days less. The ticket from Dally to London was 250 roubles, say £26; and Dr. McFarlane reckons another £10 or £12 for food and other extras on the way, so that it is somewhat cheaper than coming by boat, and it saves 22 days.

THE following Consular appointments are notified in the London *Gazette*:—Mr. Hans Eschke as Consul-General of Germany at Singapore for the Colony of Straits Settlements, the part of the Island of Borneo which is under British protection, the Colony of Labuan, the Federated States of the Malay Peninsula, and the State and territory of Johore; Mr. Constantin Bologovoski as Consul of Russia at Hongkong; and Sir Malcolm McEachern as Consul of Japan at Melbourne.

THE following returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st October, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks, are published in the *Government Gazette*:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.	\$3,355,176	\$2,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.	12,092,377	7,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited.	443,736	150,000
Total.	\$15,891,289	\$9,150,000

If you want fresh film and good film, you can get them at LeMunyon's; they are guaranteed.—*Advt.*

ANOTHER steamer for the Chinese Const Navigation Company, of Hamburg, about 2,050 tons capacity, was launched at Flensburg on the 5th September, and named the *Hedwig Mønstell*.

THE Penang Municipality has decided to empower the Registrar of Rikshas there to photograph old, crippled, diseased, or otherwise unfit riksha pullers, as a means of preventing them from pulling rikshas in the street.

THE Turkish Government has given assurances for the lighting of the new lighthouses in the Red Sea which will receive immediate attention. The revised dues for the Great and Little Basset and Minicoy, for the light, is fixed at 3/16d per ton on the burden, leviable in Indian ports.

GUN practice will take place from Lyemun (Redou) and Pak-sha-wan on the 12th inst., and from Lyemun (Pak-sha-wan and Sai-wan) on 13th inst., at moving targets towed across the entrance to Junk Bay between Devil's Peak and Futau Chau at a range of 1,800 to 700 yards, and at targets towed down Junk Bay above Futau Chau at a range of about 4,000 yards.

A SYDNEY wire of 2nd inst. says there are no tidings as yet of the *Ovala*. The vessel is long overdue and has 25 people aboard. The cruiser which was despatched to search for her has returned without having found any trace of the ship. It is believed that the missing craft has foundered through fire or by some other mysterious agency, as no collision has been reported.

WE are still doing business at 31, Des Voeux Road: LeMunyon.—*Advt.*

THE *Goliath*, first-class armoured battleship, Captain Frank H. Henderson, C.M.G., has returned her stores at Chatham Dockyard, and has paid off into the Medway Reserve on her return from three years' service on the China Station. Her crew will go on leave of absence, and the *Goliath* will be refitted for another term of active service, the work being put out to private contract.

W. NG Yau, a farmer, charged at the Magistracy this morning with being in unlawful possession of 24 tael of raw opium, and offering a bribe of \$160 to a constable, admitted the first indictment and explained with regard to the second that as the policeman had worn his shoes out when chasing him he offered him the money to buy another pair. Mr. Smith fined him \$100, or in default two months' gaol on the first charge and on the second sentenced him to 14 days' hard labour.

AS already mentioned in our columns Dr. Alice Sibree has been appointed by the London Missionary Society to the Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital at Hongkong. Public interest in Hongkong in the scheme was conspicuously attested by the large crowd that assembled at the stone-laying by Lady Blake in July last, says the *L. & C. Express*. Dr. Sibree entered the London School of Medicine for Women, 1901 took the qualification of the Royal College of Surgeons and Physicians, Edinburgh. After taking this qualification Miss Sibree was appointed medical officer of Dr. Jane Walker's Sanatorium at Clare, Suffolk. She also acted as assistant for about nine months to a doctor in the country. Miss Sibree has spent the past summer in taking a course in tropical and eye diseases.

CHINESE FOR THE RAND.

The report of Mr. Skinner, the Commissioner, appointed by the Chamber of Mines to visit China and the Far East, with a view to ascertaining the possibility of importing Asiatic labour for the Rand, was submitted to the Chamber at Johannesburg on 6th ult. Mr. Skinner says he considers that the better class of Chinese labourers are quite suited to supplement the present Kaffir labour in the mines. He believes that a sufficient number of coolies is obtainable to meet the requirements of the Rand in the present and the immediate future. According to the report, the cost of Chinese will approximate £4 monthly per head, which includes the cost of importation and repatriation. Mr. Skinner insists that the Chinese must be kept separate from the Kaffirs. The report urges that in order to avoid the danger of the mines becoming dependent on the Chinese secret societies, efforts should be made to increase the Kaffir supply. The impression of mining men is generally favourable to the report, although they realise that no recruiting in the Far East will be possible before the necessary legislation is enacted.

With regard to the above, the cost of £4 per month seems very high. When Mr. Skinner was in China he was given estimates by a number of firms engaged in recruiting labour. These estimates were all framed on the basis of a three years' firm contract, the coolie to be delivered ready for work at Delagoa Bay. On the question of wages, it was agreed that from \$12 to \$15 (Mexican coinage) would be ample to tempt labour in sufficient quantities. The repatriation cost, too, was generally assessed at £5. As regards preliminary cost, we (*L. & C. Express*) are informed that one firm of standing made a definite offer to supply coolies in batches of 1,000, the first shipment to cost £75, the second £15, and the third £0 per head, landed at Delagoa Bay. On the basis of these figures the cost should only be somewhere about £2 5s. per head, which, however, is probably too low. The point on which there can be no doubt is that Mr. Skinner, like everyone else who has studied the question with an open mind, is in favour of the importation of Chinese.

TELEGRAMS.

(Russia.)
The Tsar in Germany.
London, 5th November.
The Tsar has returned to Darmstadt. During his visit to Weisbaden, the town was occupied by thousands of troops; the streets adjacent to the Castle were closed to the public, the inmates of houses were forbidden to stand at the doors or on the balconies and the pavements were occupied by soldiers and detectives.

The Rebellion in Panama.
Fifty American blue-jackets have been landed at Colon where the Government troops refuse to acknowledge the provisional government. The inhabitants are panic-stricken.

LATER.
Affairs have quieted down in Panama and the war-ships have left the Port. The bombardment did but little damage and the lives of foreigners were not threatened. The *Nashville's* blue-jackets have re-embarked.

The United States Elections.
The Republicans have been victorious at Iowa and Colorado, while the Democrats have carried the governorship of Rhode Island.

SIR MATTHEW NATHAN.
The following resolution has been passed on the occasion of Sir Matthew Nathan's promotion to the Governorship of Hongkong, viz.:—resolved—That the Committee of the African Trade Section of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce desire heartily to congratulate Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., on his new appointment to the important position of Governor of Hongkong. The Committee desire to record their satisfaction with the able manner in which Sir Matthew Nathan has fulfilled his duties whilst acting as Governor of the Gold Coast Colony, and wish him all success in his new sphere of duty.

LADY BLAKE'S GRUESOME EXPERIENCE.
While in Jamaica Lady Blake made a most disquieting discovery. She spent much of her time in the jungle, exploring with her party the wonderful caves for which the colony is famous. One afternoon she was lowered down a "sink hole" in the recesses of a cave near St. Ann's Bay. When, after wild signalling, she was hauled up, her nerves were much shaken. At the bottom of the "sink hole" she had discovered numerous skeletons, all with their heads battered in. She probed the mystery to the bottom, and learned that the skeletons were those of the victims of a Lewis Hutchinson, who had, over a century ago, fled from Edinburgh after murdering the betrayer of his sister, and had set up a tower near St. Ann's, where he buried chance travellers in a fit of insanity, afterwards carrying their bodies to the cave. While in Jamaica her ladyship used to keep various pets, found during her explorations in the forest; and the officer who sat down on a tame leopard in the darkness in the grounds of Government House will not readily forget his fright.—*Mail paper.*

CHRISTMAS PARCELS FOR HOME FRIENDS.
The first difficulty that presents itself to intending senders of gifts to their friends at home is how to get them away, and the next, how to ensure the delivery of the same, free of all cost, to the recipients. Only small packages can be sent by parcel-post and the steamship companies, taking cases of greater volume, will only undertake to deliver them in London or ports where their vessels go into.

Very often would-be senders are discouraged by these difficulties and consequently give up the idea of sending home parcels. To these it will be agreeable to learn that Messrs. McEwen, Frickel & Co., of our port, thanks to the development of their parcel express agency, are able to do away with those worries and undertake to deliver, free of all charge, at the door of consignees in any part of the world, packages and merchandise of every description. This is a boon that will undoubtedly be appreciated by all residents in the East. This firm is shipping on the 9th and 14th instants for delivery at Christmas and the New Year, the first of these dates being the latest at which parcels can go for delivery in England on the 25th December next.

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.
Australian (*Changsha*) to-morrow.
Indian (*Gregory Affair*) 9th inst.
German (*Preussen*) 11th inst.
American (*Nippon Maru*) 12th inst.
German (*Prinz Heinrich*) 12th inst.
Tacoma (*Olympia*) 14th inst.
American (*Siberia*) 20th inst.
Tacoma (*Tacoma*) 4th prox.

The Imperial German Mail s.s. *Preussen* left Shanghai via Foochow to-day, at 2 a.m.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver a.m., on 3rd inst., for Hongkong via the usual Ports of Call.

The Imperial German Mail s.s. *Prinz Heinrich* carrying the German Mails with dates from Berlin of the 13th ult., left Singapore on Friday, at 10 a.m., and may be expected here on 10th inst.

THE Beer to drink in the tropics is THE Beer made in the tropics—SAN MIGUEL.

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THE JUBILEE MEMORIALS

HANDS TO THE GOVERNMENT.

VICTORIA HOSPITAL.

Thanks to the brilliant weather and the numerous persons that assembled to witness the ceremony, the official opening of the Jubilee Hospital to-day was a most successful function. The front of the handsome, new building, a detailed description of which has already found a place in these columns, was most tastefully adorned with bunting of every colour, which floated gaily in the cool breeze, and a red carpet was laid along the winding path leading from the road to the main entrance of the hospital. The hall was also traversed by a strip of carpet of a similar brilliant hue and the handsome pillars were prettily draped with flags. The work of decorating the edifice was executed by a group of sailors from H.M.S. *Tamar*, under the direction of Mr. J. Coyle, P.W.D.

For the past three weeks, the new staff has been busy preparing the interior of the building, and to-day the hospital is spick and span, ready in every detail for the reception of its patients. The evidence of complete preparation is everywhere, and especially in the bright, comfortable general and private wards in which the black varnished cots, white bedding, polished flooring and furniture bear witness to the enormous amount of work that has been done in so short a time. The aspect of the children's ward on the first floor, with its tiny beds and billupian furniture is particularly appealing to the sentiments of the visitor, and it is with a real sense of gratitude that one perceives that every possible measure has been taken, and every detail carefully worked out to ensure the comfort and well-being of the little sufferers.

Though we have already, in a previous issue, given a detailed description of the interior disposition of the building a brief summary of the accommodation will not be out of place. On either side of the entrance is an enclosed verandah running along the whole front of the building. From the entrance one penetrates into the hall, covered with tessellated tiles. A door to the right gives admittance to a room for a Sister and to the left to a private ward. There is also a larger private ward to the east of the building, and still to the eastwards there are two similar rooms with a verandah at the back. Separating the first block from the block northwards is a corridor. The convalescent room is to the west of the Sister's room adjoining the hall, and a large ward for children, capable of accommodating eight beds, completes the west wing of the main building. The boiler room is on the ground floor with coal stores, coal quarters, European kitchen, coolie kitchen and latrines forming the central block at the back of the building, while the disinfecting, amahs' rooms, scullery, w.c.s and baths are divided from it by a yard turfed with grass. Another set of servants' quarters with scullery, two w.c.s and baths is laid out in almost precisely the same way as those for the amahs on the west, and is divided from the main block of coolies' quarters by a yard similarly turfed. Ascending to the first floor of the principal building it is seen that a Sister's room has been built immediately above the hall and to the right and left of it are the large wards. The verandahs, which are also enclosed, are laid out in exactly the same style as those on the floor below. The isolating ward and the operating theatre occupy positions on this floor; and the latter has a glass roof. A scullery and bathroom are attached, and on the extreme west side of the building is the dispensary, wardmaster's and amahs' rooms. The flooring throughout is of Singapore hardwood, the windows of China fir, with frames of teak and the staircase is of the same material. Gas and water is laid on throughout the building, a supply of the latter being pumped from the city to the summit of the hill above the hospital buildings, at an altitude of some four or five hundred feet, and there stored in a reservoir. The two general wards for women contain 24 beds, the single ward for children can accommodate eight, and the four private wards eight beds. In the isolation ward there will be one bed.

The Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson is in charge of the establishment, and the Nursing Staff, (under the orders of Miss Lea, Matron) consisting of Sister Schaffer and two nurses, will devote their care to the suffering inmates. The steward and clerk is Mr. Marquis.

THE OPENING CEREMONY.

H.E. the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., who was accompanied by Lady Blake and Sir John Keene (Private Secretary), arrived at the Hospital shortly after the appointed hour, and was met at the foot of the pathway by the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Sir W. M. Goodman, the Hon. Dr. Atkinson, and the Hon. W. Chatham. There was already assembled a representative gathering of the leading civil and official members of the community, amongst whom were noticed several of the principal subscribers to the Jubilee Fund, including Sir W. M., Lady and Miss Goodman, the Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G. (Chairman of the Jubilee Committee), Mrs. F. H. May, Sir Henry, Lady and the Misses Berkeley, Hon. W. Chatham, (Hon. Sec.) Hon. Dr. and Mrs. A. Kinross, Mrs. Bell, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., Hon. Wei Yuk, J. R. M. Smith (Hon. Treasurer), Capt. Lyons, Dr. E. A. Liang, Messrs. Ho Fook, Ho Kom Tong, Lawrence Gibbs, Dyer Ball and S. W. Tuo.

The Committee, having escorted His Excellency the Governor to the entrance of the Hospital, Sir Paul Chater addressed the assembly in an appropriate speech recapitulating the facts attending the inception of the plans and subsequent creation of the Public Memorial to the Gracious Lady, who might be justly described as the greatest Queen in history. He said he looked to the government for the completion of the Jubilee Road, which would practically encircle the island and point out its many beauties to the lover of scenery and nature. The total cost of the whole work in connection with the Jubilee Memorials was \$24,163.32.

In the course of His Excellency's reply, he reviewed the circumstances attending the laying of the first opening stone of the new Jubilee Road, and alluded to the discussion which then originated concerning the military value of the same and the opposition offered the project by the Commander-in-Chief. Continuing, His Excellency stated that he looked forward to the opportunity of the unique occasion which now presented itself to him of opening the Hospital—a fitting memorial to our late beloved Queen.

His Excellency then proceeded to open the main door with the silver key which had been presented to him by Sir Paul Chater.

The door opened, the Governor, accompanied by the Committee and those present, inspected the building in all its details. General satisfaction was expressed at the completeness of the structure, which is pronounced to be admirably adapted to its purpose. Messrs. Palmer and Turner are the architects, under whose supervision the Hospital was constructed.

THE JUBILEE ROAD.

It may be remembered that some delay was experienced in proceeding with the road scheme, chief of which occurred in consequence of military objections to the line of road from Kennedy Town to Aberdeen. After much correspondence, including a memorial to the Secretary of State on the subject and assisted by the strong representation of the former General Officer Commanding the Garrison (H.E. Maj.-Gen. G. Wilson Black), the military objections were withdrawn on the following conditions:—(a) The road to follow generally the 150 feet contour. (b) The revetments on the seaward side of the road to form a 3 feet parapet. (c) The platform over any nullahs the road may cross to be easily removable, and (d) Protections to be formed at points suitable to serve as gun positions.

Messrs. Denison, Ram and Gibbs, architects, etc., were asked to submit a report and plan of a trace; made to prove the practicability of a road following the 150 ft. contour from Kennedy Town to Aberdeen. The result was satisfactory, and after certain alterations were made on the trace a plan was submitted for the approval of the Director of Public Works. His approval was received in November, 1900, and on 22nd February, 1901, Messrs. Denison, Ram and Gibbs forwarded finished plans and specification followed on by nine tenders along with their own recommendations on same for the consideration of the Executive Committee. The matter at once engaged the attention of the Committee and on 28th March, 1901, Mr. David Wood, then the hon. secretary of the Jubilee Committee, by direction instructed Messrs. Denison, Ram and Gibbs to proceed with the work. Satisfactory arrangements were made with the owners of lots through which the road runs, and Mr. Lai A. Ping having been engaged as contractor the work was commenced. Starting at Belchers Bay near the new Tung Wa Plague Hospital the road rises for the first half mile at a gradient of 1 in 20, and then proceeds 14 miles level, after which there is a rising gradient for half a mile of 1 in 30, followed by a similar falling gradient for another half mile. The road then runs level for 14 miles, after which it falls at a gradient of 1 in 20 for 880 yards and finishes up with a level mile. Of this length 4½ is new road and 14 miles old. The road passes the French Mission, goes through the Dairy Farm and crosses the old Aberdeen Road about a mile to the Victoria side of Aberdeen. At the Aberdeen end a path has been made from the Mount Kellat Road, so that Peak residents can obtain access to the Jubilee Road without passing through Aberdeen village. The road which is 16 feet wide clear driving space crosses numerous nullahs and gullies, and ten bridges, with brick arches and white granite face work, and generally, of 10 feet span, have been built in the thoroughfare. The longest bridge has four spans of 10 feet each, and crosses a stream from the Lokulam Reservoir. The cost of the road was about \$112,000.

WUCHOW TRADE REPORT.

One of the most interesting reports embodied in the *Returns of Trade and Trade Reports*, for 1902, is that dealing with Wuchow and the West River which we reprint from the annual volume forwarded to us by the I.M.C.:

1. Local.—The estimated net value of all river-borne trade at this port, i.e., of trade passing both by vessels of Foreign type and those of Native, was Hk. Tls. 14,932,707. Of this Hk. Tls. 6,585,374 is assignable to shipping of Foreign type and Hk. Tls. 8,347,333 to the junk trade. For comparative purposes one can, of course, only refer to the former, and here there was a heavy decline in Imports of Hk. Tls. 2,146,197. Nature did not act with her usual solicitude, drought completely spoilt the crops for the 9th and 10th months, and in July floods swept the Liu-chou area, whence come our large supplies of Timber. During this period it is estimated that riffs to the total value \$300,000 were prematurely carried drift and broken by the racing current, while one wood firm alone is said to have suffered to the extent of \$60,000, and the loss to the Native Customs in Revenue may be assessed at 7,000. With a recrudescence of brigandage, with miscellaneous thieves, with but little to support life from the soil, it cannot be wondered that there was small demand for Piece Goods, etc., which, in any case, from gold standard countries would be expensive enough for a poor population. It has followed that those who could not support life in ethical form, and preferred to take to evil courses, have done so; and that Export expansion—ordinarily natural, but under the circumstances, singular—has been in the hands of the more honest, active, and better-to-do. The future of Wuchow is quite sufficiently rosy—artificial factors, e.g., railways, may come in, but trade routes in China are like tracks on a slow-drying cement, easily to be eradicated in the soft stage, but once formed only to be altered by pulverisation; and the cheap junk is an effective transporter of cargo in bulk. In gauging the prevalent brigandage it has been necessary to rely some-

what on the higher mathematical processes, especially that method known as "probabilities." There have neither been great battles nor protracted sieges, and the matter has been long drawn out because of the distress *ab initio*, the physical difficulties of the region, and the intangibility of the rift-riff—here, perhaps, 300 strong, there 10 or less. In a general way, the Yunnan and Kweichow borders have been select haunts; and so, in a degree, of the difficult country in the Nanning area, and vicinity of Pin-chou—more especially towards Lung-an, Hsiao-chou, Yung-shun, Wu-hsian, and up to Liu-chou. A notorious fastness was a certain spacious and deep cavern between Kuei-hsien and Chien-chiang. A serious mishap was the ambushing and mortal wounding beneath the left arm of the well-known leader Ma Tung-ling, in July. At the close of August came the new Governor His Excellency Wang Chih-chun, relieving His Excellency T'ing Cheng-to transferred to Shansi; and with the new incumbent came 1,500 Foreign-drilled Hunanese troops—neatly uniformed, with a creditable bearing, armed with Mausers. On the 19th October the Governor proceeded in person to Nanning *via* Hsiao-chou and Kuei-hsien, and he is still in the interior. On the 4th July commenced a noteworthy rise of the river, and by the 17th the level stood at 68 feet 3 inches. Roughly speaking, the whole town without the walls then stood under water, the pontoons floated on a level with the roofs of the houses, on the parade-ground was 8 feet of water, the hills around alone afforded *terra firma*, and the possible forcible entry of a steam-launch by one's hall-door caused trepidation. The autumn examination produced no extraordinary talent; among the subjects set was a *ts'ê lun* on (i) the anatomy of the human body, (ii) the constitutions of Foreign countries, (iii) a survey of the celestial system.

2. Revenue.—The receipts from vessels of Foreign type have fallen Hk. Tls. 72,299 compared with 1901—mainly, Import Duties and Transit Dues—wards. The gain on the effective 5 per cent. Tariff was Hk. Tls. 41,884, and on goods hitherto Duty free, Hk. Tls. 1,449. Revenue from junk trade (following the Native Tariff) totalled Hk. Tls. 142,334—chiefly from produce outwards. In a good year, therefore, on the present basis, the whole trade of the port should produce easily half a million taels, and I look to three-quarters of a million.

3. Foreign Trade.—(a) Imports.—Whereas this ordinarily means a trade distributable over 100,300 square miles, it has in 1902 meant the import of necessities (including Rice from September to November—chiefly by junk, however), supplies locally, and to the larger towns for the better-to-do, and stocks held—a result of Nature's nips. An essential reason, touching Piece Goods has been a failure of the Opium crop in Kweichow and Yunnan, Opium being a medium of exchange and barter. Handkerchiefs (the coloured, red-bordered kind, not hemstitched) form acceptable wedding presents—price \$1.30 per dozen. The Broadcloth (of good pile) favoured for gowns is blue, brown, black, and dark red; and a good gown, lined silk, will cost \$16 to \$18; with cotton, \$10 to \$12; and will last eight to ten years. Caps of the cricketer shape, made of inferior Spanish Stripes (from Germany), Flannel (from Germany), Japanese Cotton Cloth, or English Cotton Velvet, are preferred to the felt caps with flappers affected by the lower-ten—but here colour is a factor: blue, brown, yellow, and white with blue stripes are the shades fancied, and the articles are made up by native tailors in Hongkong. Usual size, 6½; price, \$1.30 per dozen. Pleasing to the female eye are Cotton Velvet, Cotton Flannel, Cassimeres, Imitation Lastings, Broadcloth, Japanese Grape Cloth, and Italian Cloth; while Foreign Satin and, I might add, coloured German Lace, are employed. Blue Shirting is used for underwear; while Foreign Socks from Germany at \$3.60 the dozen have a great sale. Ningpo Raw Cotton is a new importation. Russian Kerosene Oil, sold nearly at cost price, has been forcing the market; it has come from Hongkong in the British tank steamer *Peluse*—capacity, 80,000 gallons, and which, on a maximum trip, brought 76,800 gallons—the Oil being pumped into the tins on arrival here. There has been a good interior demand for this, but no large profits have been made. There is, locally, good hope for Metals; an Iron foundry under the style of the Fu An Company, situated on the right bank of the Fu-ho, near the business quarter, was established in May—the primary purpose being to manufacture machinery for irrigation and to undertake small launch repairs, while, recently, the manager has obtained an official contract for the preparation of munitions of war for the province. Original capital, Tls. 30,000; number of hands, 60. The machinery came from Canton. The local dyeing of Shirtings is suffering from local competition, though the cloths themselves are in good demand in Kuei-jin, Po-shé, and Liu-chou. Of Sundries, Lamps and Spectacles need attention. The iron frames and fittings of chandeliers are made in Canton; the glass lamp shades, chimney, etc., coming from Germany. Price for a large one \$12. Serviceable native-made silver-framed (\$2 the pair) and copper-framed (\$0.60 the pair) crystal Spectacles come from Canton; none of the Foreign kind are sold in Wuchow. Soap also sells well; mostly red and yellow from Germany, France, and Japan. "Rose" from the first-named country, at 15 cents the cake, has most demand; so also "Pears." Of Perfumery, the favourite essences are: for men, Florida Water (from America and Germany), and Japanese imitations of latter; for women, Violets (from Japan) and really good French scents. The sale of good liquors (e.g., Peppermint, Curaçao) and Foreign sweet wines, in small fancy vials, in place of the present cumbersome and expensive mode, is one which should commend itself to the wine trade, seeing how often that but a few drops of the liquid are added to Native beverages.

(b) Exports.—These have advanced rather in values than bulk. China-root was exported

in large quantities, many of the orders coming from India, where the natives are said to have their bodies with it for the prevention of plague. A few shipments of Cassia Oil were made between the 26th September and 6th December, there being a good market in Hongkong, and merchants selling it for \$330 to \$350 the picul; it usually passes by junk to Canton, etc., the steamer expenses, etc., working out at about Hk. Tls. 6 the picul more. Hides still pass in a crude state—merely locally scraped and then stretched on bamboos to dry for 10 days or so; age of animals, 4 years and over. An item of interest is Cattle. This—chiefly from villages within 180 li, and largely, the red cow—are shipped both to Hongkong and Canton; largest number taken in a trip, 175 to Canton; freight, \$3.75 per head to Hongkong, \$3.50 to Canton. The majority pass ultimately to Manila. Of Medicines, is the orchid coming in small quantities from Kuei-jin; it is used in typhoid, after boiling. Also, from Kuei-jin, a vine-like shrub in small pieces, boiled down with other ingredients, such as (cicada skins) and peppermint leaf: it is given to infants for cold and fevers. Further, twigs of the honeysuckle, made into an embrocation, for sprains.

(c) Re-exports.—No remarks.

(d) Coast Trade.—(a) Original Shipments Coastwise.—Value, Hk. Tls. 266,843, chiefly Cattle to Canton.

(b) Reshipment Coastwise.—No remarks.

(c) Coastwise Arrivals.—Value, Hk. Tls. 174,688, chiefly Nankens from Samshui. It is convenient to offer a few notes on the junk trade, inwards (up river) and outwards (down river). The principal centres embraced are Canton, Fatsan, Kuei-jin, Nanning, Liu-chou, Hsiao-chou, Yü-jin, Lungchow. The principal items passing inwards, Cotton Cloth (233,865 pieces), Medicines (Hk. Tls. 25,101), Old Clothing (70,376 pieces), Silk Piece Goods (63 pieces, Hk. Tls. 2,148); and those outwards, Timber—Softwood, Hardwood, Camphor-wood—(782,870 pieces), Rice (486,613 piculs), Cassia (61,926 piculs), Firewood (Hk. Tls. 320,700), Wood Oil (25,436 piculs). The estimated net value inwards was Hk. Tls. 928,733, and outwards, Hk. Tls. 743,600; but for a first year, allowance must be made in attaining accuracy. The busiest months were the 4th, 8th, 9th, and 10th, and the largest collection, Hk. Tls. 20,710, for the 8th moon, and the smallest, Hk. Tls. 6,120, for the 6th. As regards items of trade outwards, Timber stands incontestably first—like for its quantity and excellent quality for house building and boat construction. It is grown in Liu-chou and Ch'ing-yüan, and is floated down stream to Fatsan in huge rafts of 3,000 square feet—each raft being worth some \$1,000, and the fine pine especially commanding a ready sale. The present year was not a good one, for causes already noted. Kwangsi has long had a reputation for production and quality of Groundnut Cake, the best in the Empire, and passing throughout Kwangtung for manuring. The essential oil is also superior, but insufficient for local requirements, and consequently dear. Oil from Kwangtung, cheaper though not so good, has therefore been imported; while the Kwangsi kind has passed in wooden tubs to the richer folk in Canton and Fatsan. The first crop of Rice for the year was fair, but the second was almost a total failure, and famine is still rife in the western part of the province above Nanning—though relief Rice, imported by Government, and largely contributed by various charitable societies in Canton, has greatly improved the situation. Liquid Indigo comes chiefly from Yü-jin-chou, but also from Chao-ping and Pei-lü; it passes to Canton and Fatsan for dyeing. Cassia went forward as follows: Lignea, 56,153 piculs; Twigs, 94,313 piculs; Buds, 2,116 piculs; Oil, 775 piculs; Refuse, 2,939 piculs. It comes from Hsiao-chou, Yung-hsien, and P'ing-nan, and is gathered and prepared between spring and autumn, the twigs and buds being dried before being offered in the market. There is considerable loss in preparation, as regard the Lignea, 40 per cent of the original weight going, while 1 picul of leaves distilled yields but 5 taels of the fine Oil, valued at about Hk. Tls. 150 the picul. Cassia passes to Fatsan, and thence to Hongkong, Japan, and Europe, where the Oil is employed in perfumery and in medicine. As regards trade outwards, nearly all junk-arrived Foreign goods are covered by Transit passes, though a few from Fatsan and Chantun pass Duty here. This Foreign trade is, however, small, and needs no comment. As regards Native articles, Cotton Cloth is distributed among Kwangsi, Kweichow, Yunnan, and Hunan. The Fatsan market, which supplies us, was last year both well stocked and cheap—a result of an excellent Cotton crop, and merchants were correspondingly sanguine. The causes adverted to, however, caused all importations to stop by the 9th moon, and, instead of profits, our traders sustained considerable losses. This is mostly imported by launch-towed regular trading junks. Old Clothing (Silk and Cotton) has great vogue from the general poverty, and comes from the pawnshops in Canton and Fatsan. Good Paper comes from Kwangtung; the joss kind very greatly from Chantun and Pekong. Medicines come chiefly from Shanghai and Szechwan. Silk Piece Goods comes, to a slight degree, for the wealthy of Wuchow, Kuei-jin, and Nanning. Firewood is a good paying trade, scores of loaded boats passing daily; it is usually in bundles, but is also left loose in holds—rarely passing in rafts. The wood is cut in winter, but is left on the hillsides to be carried away by the floods of summer, barriers being prepared beforehand to accumulate the floating fragments. Wood Oil, used for oiling boats, etc., and for painting, comes from Liu-chou and Kuei-jin; Kwangsi supplies Kwangtung and Hongkong with it. Silk Cocoons and Raw Silk come from T'eng-hsien—80 li above Wuchow—Yung-hsien, and Hsiao-chou. This trade originated, I believe, nine years ago during the governorship of His Excellency Ma Pi-yao, who imported worms from Canton and planted mulberries in abundance. The commerce is increasing year by year.

(e) Inland Transit.—(a) Inwards and (b)

Outwards.—This has been treated incidentally. 6. Shipping.—No remarks, save as concerns the junk trade. Inward entries, 5,872 (3,691 with cargo, 2,181 in ballast); outward entries 6,899 (6,153 with cargo, 746 in ballast); local junk transporting transhipment cargo within the area of this port, 22,531 entries to and fro; total tonnage for the latter six months of 1902, 214,766 tons; largest junk, 189 tons (a salt junk); chief varieties of shipping cargo: junks, opium boats, passenger-boats, and the local cargo-boats with bulging hulls, styled the "big bellied." Everyone of the above is measured and registered locally by us, and carries a simple Pass Book, viséd on each occasion of touching at the office. I cannot refrain from recording here the excellent spirit shown by the junk people, one and all, and their pleasant appreciation of attempts to ameliorate procedure.

7. Passenger Traffic.—No remarks.

8. Treasure.—Nil.

9. Opium.—No remarks.

10. Miscellaneous.—No remarks.

ERNEST ALABASTER,
Acting Commissioner of Customs.
Wuchow, 21st February, 1903.

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Writing under yesterday's date, Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts state:—

A small investment business has been transacted during the past week. Indo Chinas have experienced a further decline, otherwise rates show little or no change.

The Dairy Farm Company, Limited, has advertised its seventh ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders for the 19th November. The transfer books are closed from this date till the 19th instant, both days inclusive.

Banks.—A slight improvement in Hongkong and Shanghai Banks has taken place during the week, shares having changed hands at \$62½. The London quotation has also advanced and closed at £62. Nationals are still in request at \$28.

Marine Insurances.—There is no business to report in stocks under this heading. Unions are firm at \$49½, and China Traders continue in demand at \$60. Cantons, Yangtszes and North Chinas are all unchanged at the previous rates.

Fire Insurances.—Hongkong Fires are weak at \$320, and China Fires remain steady at \$90. Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao steamboats have been placed at \$31. Indo-Chinas have further weakened to \$74. China and Manilas have again been done at \$19, and more shares are offering. Douglas Steamships have improved but close quiet at \$31. Star

Ferries (Ordinary) have found buyers at \$26; the new shares keep steady at \$16. Shell Transports can be placed at 18½. Taku Tugs are a shade firmer at Tls. 36. In Shanghai Tugs, further sales are reported at Tls. 55 and Tls. 50 for the ordinary and preference shares respectively.

Refineries.—We have heard of no business. China Sugars have inquiries at \$96.

Mining.—Punjoms are dull at \$14. The result of the October crushing is 700 tons yielding 51 ounces smelted gold; estimated value \$2,000. The small return was due to collapse of milling power but the worn-out machinery was rapidly replaced, and a telegram since received from the Mines reports that the Mill has resumed operation. Raubs are in the market at \$8 after sales at the rate. Chinese Engineering can be obtained at Tls. 6.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are still inquired for at \$201. Fathams have been negotiated at the improved rate of Tls. 118. Kowloon Wharfs, after advancing to \$87, have reacted to \$86 at which figure shares may be procured. Hong-kew Wharfs have again been dealt in at Tls. 217½.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands have been booked at \$153. Shanghai Lands continue in demand at Tls. 100, but sellers are holding off for Tls. 101. Hongkong Hotels can be had at \$147. Astor House Hotels have been sold at \$27. Humphreys Estate have changed hands at \$101, and China Providents at \$9, closing with further buyers for both stocks.

Cotton Mills.—There is nothing doing locally, and rates are unaltered.

Cigar Companies.—Further sales of Sumatras at Tls. 50½ are reported from Shanghai.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements, A. S. Watsons and Electrics are all in demand at quotations. Hongkong Steam Waterboats have been disposed of at \$153. Langkats have improved and sales at Tls. 27½ have been effected.

YARN MARKET REPORT.

Messrs. Cawasjee, Pallanjee & Co., writing under yesterday's date, state:—

Since the issue of our last circular dated the 23rd ultimo, our yarn market during the whole of the fortnight remained steady, and though the rates of exchange have dropped heavily prices show no improvement. The harvest operations in the interior have greatly retarded business. Sellers are still eager to quit at the current quotations. We expect some improvement in the near future. A moderate business transpired in No. 20s. at last mail's prices Nos. 16s. and 12s. are moving slowly at current quotations. No. 10s. as usual have been dealt in to a fair extent. Nos. 8s. and 6s. are not much inquired for. Sales during the past fortnight comprise about 50 bales of No. 6s., 25 bales of No. 8s., 1,805 bales of No. 10s., 150 bales of No. 12s., 110 bales of No. 16s., and 465 bales of No. 20s.—in all about 2,605 bales. Arrivals during the fortnight per steamers *Dum-Yu Maru*, *Catherine Apear*, *Nanning*, and *Ichia* of about 15,000 bales, shipments to Shanghai and northern ports amount to about 5,000 bales. The unsold stock is estimated at about 35,000 bales.

No sales are reported in local as well as Japanese yarns.

Exchange.—During the fortnight it began to drop, and we quote to-day on India at Rs. 135½. London at Sh. 1/9 13/16d.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.	
ON LONDON, Telegraphic Transfer.....	1/9 11/16
" Bank Bills, on demand.....	1/10 1/2
" Credits, 4 months' sight.....	1/10 1/2
" D'ments 4 months' sight.....	1/10 1/2
ON BERLIN, (demand).....	1/10 1/2
ON PARIS, Bank Bills, on demand.....	2/27 1/2
" Credits, 4 months' sight.....	2/27 1/2
ON NEW YORK, Bank Bills, on demand.....	44 1/2
" Credits, 30 days' sight.....	44 1/2
ON BOMBAY, Telegraphic Transfer.....	134 1/2
" On demand.....	135 1/2
ON SHANGHAI, Telegraphic Transfer.....	71 1/2
" Private 30 days' sight.....	nom.
ON YOKOHAMA, T.T.	88 1/2
Sovereigns, Bank's Buying Rate.....	51.17
Gold Leaf 100 touch, per tael.....	58.10
Bar Silver.....	27 1/2

OPIUM QUOTATIONS.	
To-day's quotations are as follows:—	
MALWA NEW.....	@ 860/000
" LAST YEAR.....	@ 940/000
" OLDEST.....	@ 1,040/070
PATNA NEW.....	@ 1,117 1/2
BENARES NEW.....	@ 1,115
PERSIAN (PAPER).....	@ 800/820

To-day's Advertisements.

EXCURSION TO MACAO.

THE Steamship

"PAK-KONG."

Capt. E. J. Page, will leave her usual Wharf, beyond the Canton Steamboat Co.'s Wharf, (West), for Macao at 8.30 A.M. on SUNDAY, 8th, and MONDAY, 9th inst., returning from Macao at 6.30 P.M.

Return Tickets \$1.00 each to be had on board.

Meals can be had on board.

Messrs. RITCHIE & CO.,

39, Des Vaux Road.

Hongkong, 7th November, 1903. [13396]

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NORDEUTSCHER HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINE.

STEAM FOR SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, HIOGO AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Imperial German Mail Steamship

"PRINZ HEINRICH."

of the NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD, Captain R. Heintze, due here with the outward German Mail about TUESDAY NIGHT, will leave for the above Places about 12/24 hours after arrival.

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

For further Particulars, apply to

MELCHERS & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 7th November, 1903. [6536]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"CHUSAN,"

FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo—

From London, &c., *ex S.S. Britannia*.

From Australia, *ex S.S. Rome*.

From Persian Gulf, &c., *ex B. I. S. N.* and *ex P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamers*.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 1 P.M., TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 13th instant, at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees' and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

HIGH CLASS
GENTLEMEN'S
OUTFITTERS.

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DRESS-MAKERS.

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SHIRTS.
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DRESSMAKING DEPARTMENT.

Dall Dresses, Bridal Gowns, In and Outdoor Costumes, Riding Habits, Cycling Skirts, Tea Gowns, etc.

CUT, FIT, AND STYLE GUARANTEED.

Ladies' own materials made up. This Department is under the direct supervision of a Highly Qualified English Dressmaker. Customers living at Coast Ports or inland who are unable to call for fitting should send for patterns and estimates, which will be promptly forwarded free of charge. When ordering, always send a well-fitting dress as pattern, so that we may get the exact measurements and insure perfect fit without unnecessary delay. If customer is not on our books, a deposit of at least half the amount of estimate is required on placing all making up orders; balance before delivery.

PARISIENNE MILLINERY.

A large selection of the latest French and English creations always arriving. Also a large stock of Plain and Fancy Straw Hats, Trimmed to order under European supervision.

DRESS GOODS.

Tweeds, Serges, Meltons, Friezes, Hopsacks, and full range of Fancy Dress Materials, always on hand.

GLOVES.

Black, Tan, White, and Beaver Kid and Suede Gloves stocked from September to end of February. Silk and Cotton in stock throughout the year.

HOSIERY.

Ladies' and Children's Summer Cotton, Cashmere, and Lisle Thread Hosiery, Children's White and Colored Socks. Ladies' Openwork and Embroidered Cashmere, Spun Silk, and Cotton Hosiery (Tan and Black and Colors).

SILKS AND SATINS.

Undoubtedly the very best stock in the Far East, and includes English and French Silks and Satins in all makes and colors, Rich Broches, Bengalines, Peau de Soies, Glacés, Foulards, Chenes; Moirés, Satin Merveilleux, Silk Duchesse, etc., etc.

CHIFFONS AND GAUZES.

Accordion pleated Chiffons in all widths. Plain Chiffons and Gauzes, Crepe de Chine, Satin Chiffon Cloth, Bridal Net, Embroidered Dress Nets, and Gauzes in great variety.

RIBBONS.

Black, White and Colored, Plain and Fancy Ribbons, in all widths and qualities.

LACES.

Guipure, Torchon, Valenciennes, Paris Laces and Insertions, including all the newest makes on the market. Splendid selection of new Lace Ties, Collars, and Robes, direct from the best French houses.

LADIES' UNDERCLOTHING.

Wool Combinations, Silk and Wool Vests, Cholera Belts, White Cotton Vests, Nainsook Chemises, Knickers, Night Dresses, Camisoles, Combinations, Bath and Dressing Gowns, etc.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Stocked in English and American shapes. An entirely new stock will shortly arrive. It includes all kinds of the best makes in ladies' and children's smart Footwear.

CORSETS.

In the following makes:—Madam Leizer, Prima Donna, The Model straight-fronted, Y. and N. Cycling.

THE SANAKOR.

A new and thoroughly up-to-date high class corset in rich brocade.

THE RIBBON CORSET.

Ideally Cool for the East; this corset is made up of bands of thick ribbon or petersham, fitting below the bust yet affording perfect support.

UMBRELLAS AND SUNSHADES

With natural or fancy handles, silk lace and chiffon covers in the latest fashions.

HOUSEHOLD LINEN DEPARTMENT.

All kinds of Bed and Table Linen stocked, Calicoes, Long Cloth Shirtings, Prints, Oxford Shirtings, Flannels and Flannel-ettes in large variety.

LININGS.

We hold a full range of Dressmakers' Linings and Sundries Sateens, Linenets, Scillecias, Black, Backs, &c.

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DRAPERS.

MORE NEW GOODS.

DAINTY FANS, PURSES,
CHATELAINE BAGS.
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DENTS GLOVES.

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NEW VEILINGS.
LACE STOLEES.
WINTER JACKETS.

GENTLEMEN'S

Dancing Pumps, Dress Shirts,
Gloves and Ties.

SMART HIGH GRADE BOOTS.

30 different shapes and kinds,

Perfect Style and Finish.

The Best is always the Cheapest.

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Of every Description. Rich Silk Appliques Silk and Motifs in floral designs. Pearl, Jet, and Bead, Silk Braid, Sequins on Net, Silk on Lace. The latest Wool Trimmings and others too numerous to mention.

JACKETS AND FURS.

Heavy winter Jackets, Stylish Golf Capes, Handsome Fur Coats, Capes and Jackets for travellers, Opera Cloaks and Wraps. Light Summer Rain and Dust Cloaks.

VELVETS, VELVETEENS,

Feather and Fur Boas, and Light Silk Chiffon, Lace and Net Ruffles and Fascinators.

BED AND BEDDINGS

Single and Double beds, Camp, Air, and Chair beds. Infants' Cots. Hair, Flock, Feather, Rattan, and Spring Mattresses. Bolsters, Pillows, Cushions, etc., in stock or made to order.

CURTAINS.

Cream or White Lace in all lengths; also in Tapestry, Rep, Crettonne, and Chinelle.

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In all the newest designs and makes.

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Axminster, Brussels Tapestry and Kidderminster Carpet Squares in various qualities. Prices up to \$300.

QUILT AND BLANKET DEPT.

Silk-covered Eider Down and White and Colored Quilts. White, Scarlet, and Colored Blankets and Rugs. Silk, Velvet and Tapestry Cushions.

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Standard, Table and Hanging Lamps, Coal Scuttles and Boxes, Fenders, Fire Irons, Cooking and Heating Stoves, Ranges, Fire Guards, China and Glass, Glazed Tiles, etc., etc.

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Brooms and Brushes, Domestic Soaps, Black Lead, Knife Powder and Boards, Butter Pats, Rolling Pins, Mouse and Rat Traps, Washing Boards, Mops, etc., etc., etc.

DOMESTIC.

Zinc Scullery Baths, Bedroom, Hip and Sponge Baths, Enamelled Kitchen Ware, Electro Plate, including a large Stock of Cruets.

GAMES:—CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET, FOOTBALL, PING PONG.

A large selection of Indoor Games, Hoop La! Dominoes, Chess, Draughts, Children's and Adults' Table Games stocked.

TOYS.

We keep every kind of Toy all the year round, from Tin Engines at 15 cts. to Magnificently Modelled Real Skin Horses at \$40; or a Cinematograph.

DOLLS.

Stone, Rag, Kid, Celluloid, etc. Dressed and Undressed.

FANCY LEATHER GOODS

For Presents, Silver, Ebony and Ivory Manicure Sets.

OVERMANTLES AND MIRRORS.

Handsome Gilt, White and Gold, or Walnut Frames, etc., etc., with bevelled glass, English-make.

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Iron, Wire and Rubber Door Mats.

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Cabin, Overland and Storage Trunks. Steel, Compressed Fibre, Millboard, Willesden Canvas, Solid, Leather, etc.

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In various makes, Hand Bags, Portmanteaux, Suit Cases, Gladstone Bags, Rug Straps, Cash and Deed Boxes.

SEWING MACHINES.

Jones' Famous Hand and Treadle Machines famous throughout the East.

CHILDREN'S OUTFITTING.

In all its Branches.

R. G. HECKFORD,
MANAGER.

October 24th.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

(ESTABLISHED 1861.)

NEW SERIES No. 4300.

日九十月九年九十二緒光

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1903.

六拜禮

號七月一十英港香

\$13 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPY, 25 CENTS.

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Opinion business communications should be addressed to The Manager.
The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contributions.
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The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.
ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, NOV. 7, 1903.

EDUCATION IN CHINA.

IV.
(2nd November.)

We have already pointed out in previous articles that classical education in China is faulty in its relations to teachers, pupils, science, and society. It knows nothing of teaching as a specialty, a profession, a calling. It neither inspires nor satisfies in the pupil a craving for truth. It makes no effort to disprove error, establish truth, or add to the sum total of human knowledge. It undertakes to educate, not in the interests of society, but of a class. It does not recognize the right of society to be instructed, and so society suffers. The prevailing spirit of Chinese scholarship is, in its unprogressiveness, its insincerity, its arrogance; the direct opposite of what the scholarly spirit should be. Defective as it is, the system is at least better than none at all, but the narrowness of its application to the needs of society is deplorable. It is admirably adapted to the support of despotism; for it offers the most attractive reward to talent to enlist in the service of an absolute government, and it pushes the masses of the people back into the gloom of hopeless ignorance. The scheme is adapted to train in one direction only, and that is to impress men with the duty of supporting the State and to qualify them for doing it. It absolutely ignores the educational needs of the private citizen, and it knows no claim of woman to the tree of knowledge. In the present article

we shall call attention to the defectiveness of the system in what it promises to do for its charges, the obligations it assumes for those who undertake to secure an education. There are manifestly two parties to the educational contract, the system and the student. The one has something to give; the other has something to receive. The system has an aim. It proposes an end to be secured. There is necessarily a preliminary conception of the meaning of education underlying any system as the foundation of its superstructure. The key to the Chinese idea of education is to be found in the teaching of the wise men of the country with regard to the five cardinal relationships. The possibilities of human relationship are supposed to be exhaustively comprehended in those that exist between ruler and inferior, between father and son, between husband and wife, between brothers, and between friends. Of these, two—the relation of ruler to all under him and of father to son—are especially emphasized. And with regard to the first it may be said that, probably for political reasons, the early commentators transferred the loyalty due from the citizens to the State to the person of the sovereign, and so emphasized this duty as to make it overshadow every other virtue. This impression made on the masses was greatly to the advantage of the ruler. It was perpetuated and strengthened by the *Kau tau* required in the presence of the magistrate as the local representative of the Son of Heaven. Reverence for the supreme ruler inculcated by the teaching of the schools was augmented by the fear of his autocratic power and by the superstition naturally attendant upon his seclusion from popular view. The schools were compelled to teach in accordance with the will of the despot, and woe betide the unlucky neck of the scholar who should dare openly to give a different, more tolerant and sensible interpretation of the utterances of China's great sages. Reward lay one way; ruin, disgrace, and death the other. It would not have been difficult to prophesy which way Chinese scholarship would choose. Nor, with this in mind, is it hard to account for the stereotyped instruction that is given in the schools. The government has viewed education as a tool to be used exclusively for its own purposes. It has never conceived of it as a means of improving the condition of the common people, of making them happier, better, or more useful to one another. As another writer has said, "The object of education in China has been to impress upon each successive generation traditional ideas and customs, and thus prepare it to take its place naturally in the established order of society. It does not aim at a development of the human faculties—it is simply a cramming of the memory." And the material it crams is simply a series of politico-moral maxims, which, with the standard, stereotyped interpretations, are calculated to indoctrinate the people with the idea of reverence for the supreme ruler and his representatives; and to perpetuate his absolute power. In other words, education is conceived and conducted entirely in the interests of a system of government and not in the interests of the people. In so far as it is obliged to look towards the people it merely provides a cumbersome, inflexible medium for conveying thought, the crudest possible appliances for instruction, and it strictly limits the ideas conveyed in instruction to those that will aid in its main purpose of perpetuating the rule of a despotic monarch. All knowledge and training is neglected and frowned upon which does not conspire to this end. Every recognition of the rights of the people to an education that shall fit them for living and be of real benefit to them is discontinued. Education exists for the ruler, not for the people. In contrast with this narrow view and aim of education in China let us see what conception of the subject prevails among educators in Western lands. Take first a French author, Gabriel Compayré, Deputy, Doctor of Letters, and Rector of the Academy of Poitiers. He says, "From the knowledge of man, the duality of body and mind, and from the diversity of the mental faculties, it follows that education comprises several divisions, which correspond to the essential divisions of the human being." And he quotes approvingly the words of Laboulaye, another French educationist, saying, "the end of education is to permit each individual to attain the most complete development of his body, mind, and heart." Next take the words of an English writer on this subject, the Rev. Edward Thring, M.A., Head Master of Uppingham School, late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. He says, "By the word 'education' is meant the best training for the young with a view to their after-life." And again, "True education is not-

less than bringing everything that men have learnt from God, or from experience, to bear first upon the moral and spiritual being by means of a well-governed society and healthy discipline, so that it should love and hate aright, and through this, secondly, making the body and intellect perfect, as instruments necessary for carrying on the work of earthly progress; training the character, the intellect, the body, each through the means adapted to each." Finally, hear Nicholas Murray Butler, Ph.D., President of Columbia University, United States. After remarking that education cannot be identified with mere instruction, he proceeds to inquire what the term means, and he answers as follows: "It must mean a gradual adjustment to the spiritual possessions of the race. Those possessions may be variously classified, but they certainly are at least five-fold. The child is entitled to his scientific inheritance, to his literary inheritance, to his aesthetic inheritance, to his institutional inheritance, and to his religious inheritance. Without them he cannot be a truly educated or a cultivated man." It will be observed that all of these writers conceive of the aims of education and the duties of the educator as being determined, not by any class interests, but by the constitution of human nature, the needs of society, and the just claims of every individual member of society. In contrast with this, it will be seen that in one single line alone can it be allowed that Chinese education fulfils its charges. It does attempt to make its students acquainted with their literary inheritance. And yet even here its exclusive attention to the literature of China is fatal to the broadest culture. Western schools study impartially the literature of all lands, with a view to enriching the minds of their students with the best thought of all mankind in all ages. China lays before her student class only her own literature, and even that with a mark of discredit upon it that does not bear the stamp of remote antiquity or of prescribed interpretation. How can even the best literary culture such a system can give be other than narrow? But when we consider that every other line of culture summarized in the above, quotations is utterly neglected, surely we cannot be charged with pessimism if we declare that hope placed in the present system as capable of developing a national character that will make China a blessing and not a curse to the world at large, is entirely without foundation. We should naturally expect the defectiveness of such a scheme of education to become glaringly apparent when its results are brought into contact with the results of the broader and more sympathetic culture of Western lands. The inferiority of China's system is so conspicuous that it, groaning, brings confessions from the more thoughtful of her own scholars. The great Viceroy, Chang Chi Tung, in his volume *China's Only Hope*, is led to exclaim—"If the ruling classes conclude to remain befuddled, indolent, aimless, braggart, useless, ignorant, and not *lung*; if they elect to continue hopelessly proud, overbearing, sitting complacently in their places whilst the country is going to pieces and the Holy Religion is being eradicated; although they may adorn themselves with all the regalia of Confucius and quote long and elegantly from the Classics; although they may compose extended essays on ancient subjects and talk learnedly about Moral Philosophy, the whole world will forever reproach and revile them, saying, 'Behold the scapegraces of Mencius and Confucius!' It should be borne in mind that the Viceroy was pleading for the modernizing and Westernizing of the national scheme of education. Against the results of this antiquated and unreal system of so-called education there must be written, by the admission of the most thoughtful of even the Chinese themselves, the word FAILURE! The training of the schools is surely responsible for these two products,—the scholar as we see him, and society as it exists. How are we to describe these two products? The Chinese Scholar, what kind of a man have we in him? If a composite picture were to be made that would represent the average it would be of a man with all the natural instincts of spontaneity and frank expression repressed, empty of all practical knowledge, and general information, full of bigotry, conceit, and empty verbiage, without manliness, or capacity, or any other redeeming quality except a knowledge of a few thousand characters and a few hundred books, a conscienceless, characterless being, who, measured by Carlyle's rule of "how much can do lies under his hat," must be regarded as a veritable pigmy, a factor of very limited and sometimes even questionable utility in society. This is one of the products of the much-lauded system of Chinese education. A system it does indeed appear to be, but a system of stunting and dwarfing and poison-

ing the mind rather than of leading it out into a natural, wholesome, and vigorous growth. As regards society we find people living in a primitive fashion, suffering from the failure to develop their rich country, from ignorance of the dangers of overcrowding and filth, and from incapacity to combine for the prosecution of great public enterprises, like sewers, public highways, water-works, and parks. We find a people, by nature intelligent, industrious, law-abiding, and thrifty, ground down and kept from proper development of themselves and of their country, with no system of education that aims to ameliorate the condition, or to make more effective the individual or the combined effort of the mass of the people. To see a country going to ruin economically for lack of developing or because of misuse of natural resources is pathetic. To see a nation misdirecting the intelligence of a single generation of several millions of human souls is tragic. The thought that both of these processes have been going on in China for centuries, that they are going on now and will continue to go on for no one knows how much longer, is overwhelming.

THE NEWS FROM THE NORTH.

(3rd November.)

The seriousness of the news from Shanghai telegraphed to us by our own correspondent and reproduced elsewhere in this issue cannot be overestimated. The reported arrest of Tseng Chi, Tartar General and the Military Governor of Mukden, by Russia, lends a gravity to the complicated aspect of the position of political affairs in the North, which might precipitate a war that had been hoped would be averted by the concessions which have been stated as having been made by one of the Powers. Evidently Russia, as is her wont, cannot be taken too earnestly in her pledges. Like all her promises that of respecting the inviolability of territory is as perilous as the nation has shown itself to be. She has seized Mukden. This is the substance of the brief message flashed across from Peking. This action anticipated the result of the Grand Council which was held yesterday by the advice of two of China's most enlightened Viceroys, and whose pro-foreign tendencies leaning not too much on Russia's side give out the hope that the situation so far as China is concerned is certainly in favour of her nearer neighbour and our Ally—the Japanese. Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai, according to a Tientsin letter, has been making every preparation for eventualities in case of hostilities breaking out between Japan and Russia, and from His Excellency's conversation it is easy to see that his predilections are with Japan. A secret memorial sent recently to the Throne by the Viceroy advocates in the strongest terms close alliance with Japan. Viceroy Chang Chi-tung is also known to be a firm friend of Japan, and it may be confidently stated here that the majority of the officials and people of China are the same.

H. I. M. MUTSU HITO OF NIHON.

To-day of all days is an auspicious one for the Japanese Nation, for just fifty-one years ago, on the 3rd November, 1852, the present Ruler of the ancient Empire of Nihon was born. Many there are who know that the Mikado is the 121st Emperor in a line of sovereigns forming an unbroken dynasty since 660 B.C., but there are few who realise the deep-rooted respect and affection, with which he is regarded by the 45,000,000 subjects who are proud to acknowledge his rule. To those who possess any acquaintance with the characteristics and customs of the Japanese people, it has always been a cause of sincere admiration that no matter what degree the antagonism between political parties may attain, the authority of the Ruler remains unquestioned; his desires are immediately complied with, and his sovereignty is as undisputed as was that of his ancestors, twenty centuries ago. Neither is this manifested respect and devotion of the Japanese people to their Emperor due merely to their inherited reverence for his person,—a hero-worship that has been handed down from generation to generation—but the sentiments of the Nation for its Sovereign are intensified by the gratitude felt by its citizens towards the Ruler, who, by his wise administration, sound judgment and forethought, has, in a little over three decades, raised the nation to an equality with the Great Powers. It is well known that the Emperor has always taken a predominant and active part in the organisation of the progressive march of his people, and that he has always accorded an untiring interest in perfecting the offensive and defensive resources of his Empire, knowing full well that, though might is not right, yet right must have might to support its legitimate aspirations and defend its

hard-earned gains. At this particular epoch, when the destinies of this brave and enterprising race are menaced by the ambitions of the colossal Power in the North, when in a few short weeks, perhaps days, the country may be called upon to strive with all its might, its means, its manhood to preserve to itself the place among nations it so gloriously attained but yesterday, this anniversary of its Emperor will be kept with a rejoicing tinged with solemnity. When in 1894 Germany, France and Russia joined in robbing Japan of the laurels won in her war with China, the whole nation arose in wrathful indignation at the brutal insult offered to their Ruler, but the coalition was overwhelming and it would have been suicidal to resist. Wisely the Emperor saw this and calmed the angry clamours of his people, but the nation has neither forgotten nor forgiven the affront. Apart from our alliance with the nation of Nihon, the sympathies of the majority of the British people are assured to the sturdy and enterprising Empire in north-eastern Asia, inasmuch as they resemble us in the devotion they possess for their Sovereign, which is stronger than all party feelings, beyond all personal interests. The Japanese in Hongkong have, to-day, decorated their offices and residences with the flags of their nation, the portal of their leading bank is draped tastefully, and with delicate *apropos*, with the colours of Britain and Nihon, and to-night the leading members of the community dine with the Consul of H.I.M., Mr. Noma. Also, we are happy to associate our wishes, with the toasts that will probably be drunk on this occasion, for the health and long reign of H.I.M. Mutsu Hito, and the success and prosperity of the Japanese Nation. As we go to press telegrams are to hand—published elsewhere in these columns—to the effect that Russia has seen good to take serious aggressive measures in Liau-tung and that Mukden, the capital, has been occupied by her troops. The gravity of this news is considerable, but we are certain that it will not diminish the confidence of our ally in the future, nor the heartiness of the toasts that will be drunk this evening.

CANTON TRADE IN 1902.

(4th November.)

We tender our thanks to the Kowloon Station of the Imperial Maritime Customs Service through whose courtesy we are in receipt of Part II. of The Returns of Trade for the year 1902. The report on Canton trade for last year contained in this interesting work is indeed worthy of notice. It has sometimes been asserted by our contemporaries, and as often refuted in our columns, that there were visible indications of depression in the trade of this port, whereas, it is now evident, from the report to hand that the volume of commerce in Canton has increased considerably during the twelve months recorded therein. On the whole, it would be difficult to consider 1902 as anything but a good business year for the capital of the South. It is probable that the judges of trade were led to their opinion by the adverse circumstances with which business has had to contend—such as the drought and the subsequent serious damage to the first and second rice crops, though they forget that this brought a record quantity of shipping to the port, and with it a consequent trade in other directions. In one quarter (the last) of the year over 1,961,190 piculs of rice was imported. The net trade of the year, showing an increase of Hk. Tls. 19,754,443 over the previous twelve months, reached Hk. Tls. 79,744,707, this being the highest figure yet recorded at this port. Probably some of this increase may be attributed to the taking over by the Foreign Customs of the Native Customs, on the 17th February, 1902, and the outlying stations on the 15th May, 1902, and, although the Commissioner does not date his report till the last day of February, 1903, he states:—"A comparison of statistics would not be sufficiently reliable for publication, consequently we are unable to ascertain to what extent the foregoing figures are affected by the transfer. The matting trade, an important speciality on the West River, was excellent, the export giving 260,000 rolls, representing a value of Hk. Tls. 1,773,841, and the monopoly of transit is almost, if not entirely, contracted for by the Combined Shipping Companies. The extent of their business foresight is shown in the additions made to their fleet of steamers which now allows them to compete with any possible combination that may be formed. On the Pearl River, at the time of writing, there are no less than 19 steamers belonging to the company. Although the trade in matting was so good, it had many obstacles to contend with; for the straw crops were damaged, owing to the droughts in February, March and April, and

the second crop of the year was also a very short one; its estimated shortage, being reckoned at 30 per cent. Consequently, the price of straw advanced about 80 per cent. per picul; but against this, there is no duty on straw, and the raw material is carried by matting transit contractors freight-free. Also the new duties in Japan have handicapped the trade in that country, causing an increased demand for Canton mattings. As regards shipping, the total number of vessels entered and cleared during 1902 was 7,583, representing an aggregate tonnage of 4,192,264 tons, as against 6,068 vessels (3,766,320 tons) in 1901. Mr. J. C. Johnston, in his report, accounts for this increase by the addition of 2 river steamers the *Kwongchow* and *Sancheung*, and during the latter part of the year to the number of vessels chartered to carry rice to Canton from the Yangtze ports. Referring to the capture of Messrs Butterfield and Swire, Mr. Johnston says: "A well-known British firm is now constructing wharves and godowns in the Back Reach, on the Honam side of the river, which, when completed, will not only enable steamers to have quick dispatch, but will prove a great commercial boon to the port generally." This work is almost completed though, when first commenced, several obstacles presented themselves in the form of large sunken rocks in front of the proposed site; but these have now all been blown up and a clear fairway obtained to any wharf that may be built at any reasonable distance from the new building. This will allow steamers to arrive, discharge and leave port on the one tide; formerly boats have been known to remain in port, owing to coolie strikes, etc., for over 15 days. In December last rules were enforced compelling all steam launches to undergo inspection by the Customs' surveying engineer, Mr. Appleby, and, as a sequence, there have been less accidents. Under the heading "Piracy and robberies on the waters," the report says: "Piracies still continue to occur. It is well known that, from time immemorial, the Delta has been the happy hunting ground for pirates. While native junks only traversed inland waters little was heard of piracy cases; but now that steam-launches are plying everywhere, every attack is recorded and, in many instances, magnified into a very serious affair. The most glaring instance was that of a British subject named Evans, who was attacked by pirates near the Bogue Forts while on a voyage to Hongkong in a junk, and succumbed to his wounds a few days after. It is due, however, to the Chinese authorities to state that strenuous efforts are being made by them to suppress piracy, and that a more thorough system of patrolling and searching is being introduced."

KOWLOON DISTRICT TRADE IN 1902.

(5th November.)

In the recently-published I. M. Customs Trade Returns for 1902, the report relative to the Kowloon District is of particular interest to the Colony. Though the report still bears the name of what is now, to all intents and purposes, British territory, it really refers to the district situated just beyond our borders, which is under the surveillance of the Customs Stations of Taishan, Lintin, Shamchun, Samun, Shaichung and Shatowkok, and the figures given represent the trade passing inwards or outwards through these posts of control. The net value of the year's trade shows a decline of Hk. Tls. 2,344,342 on the net value of the trade for 1901. This loss is due partly to the change in the control of the Canton Native Custom House, which took place about the 22nd February, 1902, and partly to the disastrous drought which prevailed during the latter half of the same year. This change of control did away with different privileges granted to certain imports and exports, formerly carried by junks but which are now transported in foreign bottoms. The drought checked the progress of all agricultural products and brought about a complete failure of the autumn rice crop, necessitating the importation of large quantities from neighbouring countries, the value of which exceeded by Hk. Tls. 6,308,017 the value of rice imported during 1901. The transit-pass system reduced the value of trade and shippers of kerosine profit by the same to escape the *likin*, *ching-fee* and *tsu-tai* taxes. Nearly all the oil imported is now shipped either by tank steamers or in small sailing crafts and lighters under foreign flags. The importation of kerosine by junk decreased from 15,216,914 gallons in 1901 to 4,410,060 gallons. The total collection, exclusive of the granary tax, for the year amounted to Hk. Tls. 356,076 against Hk. Tls. 404,450 in 1901—a decrease of Hk. Tls. 48,373, or 12 per cent. An endeavour to induce kerosine oil shippers to revert to the shipping of their goods in junk was made by reducing, in September, the *ching-fee* from 5 to 3

cents a case of two tins, but with very small results. In consequence of the failure of the autumn crop the export abroad of rice and paddy was prohibited from the 10th October. The value of foreign imports, which shows a total of Hk. Tls. 22,092,223, indicates an increase, when compared with the figures of the preceding year, of over three million taels. This is due, in a large proportion, to the importation of rice and paddy from abroad, to satisfy the deficit caused by the short crops in the province. The importation of foreign grain amount to 5,223,361 piculs, valued at Hk. Tls. 11,787,432 as against 3,588,510 piculs, value Hk. Tls. 5,379,415 in 1901, being an increase of 1,634,851 piculs, value Hk. Tls. 6,408,077. Opium also shows a further increase. Cotton goods and Indian yarn show a decrease, while shirtings and cambrics indicate a slight improvement. Woolen fabrics, yarn and cord, iron, tin kerosine and sundries show a decline. In the exports, shipments to Hongkong aggregate a value of Hk. Tls. 17,682,574, being the lowest figure since 1892 and less by Hk. Tls. 5,237,134 than in 1901. For this falling off silk and its products are accountable for Hk. Tls. 2,866,212. The important decreases in exports do not necessarily indicate a loss of revenue, but are chiefly due to fiscal changes, and the handing over of the Canton Native Customs to the control of the I. M. Customs at that port, where a corresponding increase should be observable. Under the heading of "shipping" the report gives the total number of steam-launches in ballast reporting at the stations, in 1902, as 4,986, showing an increase of 555. The number of junks passing inwards was 22,860—an increase of 48—and those going outwards amounted to 22,775, i.e., 210 over the figures of 1901. The import of foreign opium increased by 223 piculs, the total being 999 piculs; this may be attributed to the absence of rain in the early and latter parts of the year, causing a failure in the native opium crops. Piracy has made itself felt on the West River and a few isolated cases are reported from Samun as having occurred in Mirs Bay. The net value of the year's trade was Hk. Tls. 46,784,280.

THE TORPEDO IN NAVAL WARFARE.

(6th November.)

The successful trials recently directed against H.M.S. *Belleisle* have resulted in proving the important role that will be played by the torpedo in future maritime warfare. This much battered old warship now lies on a mud bank in Portsmouth harbour, where she was moored as a target for an 18-inch Whitehead torpedo. The *Belleisle*, on this occasion, was specially fitted to resist a torpedo attack, the trial being mainly for the purpose of testing the value of corn-pith cellulose as a protective medium. The result proved conclusively the absolute ineffectiveness of any such defence. An 18-inch torpedo was fired at the protected part, the cellulose was instantly scattered and a hole ten feet in diameter blown in the ship's side. The wreck might be described as appalling; bulkheads and stanchions were shattered and blown in as if they had been tin-foil, and the ship settled down at once in shallow water, where she lies at present submerged. The problem that now presents itself is how to raise her. In the case of a ship that has gone down in comparatively deep water salvage operations can be carried on without any great difficulty. Upon a mud-bank, however, in a place like Portsmouth harbour, where the tides are unusually strong, sand and mud held in partial suspension by the water begins to silt up very rapidly and, added to this difficulty, the salvage operations can only be carried out at certain times of the tide when a steamer can get alongside. The hole lies buried in the mud with all the mass of the ship resting on it. That the ship will eventually be raised there is not the slightest doubt, but the operations will prove a good deal more expensive than was at first estimated. The examination has meanwhile shown again how terrible and effective a weapon the torpedo is. With its recent addition, the gyroscope, which steers it unerringly to the target from a distance of two thousand yards, it compares very favourably with the gun armament of a battleship which, directed at the structure above water, has to compete with all kinds of protection in the way of armour before it can put a ship out of action. The present gunnery practice is carried out at a distance of about eighteen hundred yards—a shorter range than the torpedo. In a fleet action it is probable that the fear of torpedo attack would keep the enemy at a distance of a good deal over two thousand yards, for there is no protection against torpedoes, other than nets, which would so hamper a fleet in its movements that it is doubtful if they would in most cases be used. A single torpedo-boat might easily account for two battleships at night and escape without any serious damage to herself from the guns. Apart from this, the range at which the Whitehead puts a fleet action renders it imperative that good practice with guns at longer distances than at present

favoured should be obtained. Recently, in these columns, we commented upon the important modifications which are about to be made in the equipment of the Hongkong torpedo-boat flotilla. Now that the enormous value of the torpedo, fitted with the new automatic self-steering gear, or gyroscope, has been proved past all discussion, it is to be hoped that the changes decided upon will receive execution with the least possible delay. The conclusive experiments on the *Belleisle* have considerably increased the importance of the torpedo-boat as a unit in the defence of a port against attack from an enemy's fleet and, in all probability, the fact that our flotilla is about to be thoroughly overhauled and re-boilered is proof that our naval experts have fully appreciated the immense services these handy little vessels are capable of rendering.

TAMMANY AND REFORM.

It is clear that the victory of the Tammany nominee over the reform candidate for the Mayoralty of Greater New York was not altogether unexpected judging from American exchanges to hand informing us that the election this year was to be heightened by the possibility that some of the former 'fusion' forces might be led into going over to Tammany. The nomination of Mr. George B. McClellan by New York Democrats was thought to be the event for which all the non-committal leaders were waiting, and while the great majority of the newspapers supported the re-election of Mr. Seth Low, the opinion of New York journals, and that expressed in the ballots, showed a marked divergence. Last year the blame for the unmistakable Democratic verdict was given by most of the New York publications to Mr. Low whose administration caused "widespread and deep dissatisfaction," while according to the *Evening Post*, a journal friendly to the Fusionists, the reform mayor needed reformation, and big odds would have to be overcome this year. It was asserted that the greater New York Democracy opposed the renomination of Mr. Low because they were anxious to bring to an end the power of President Roosevelt and Governor Odell, and it was their firm conviction that the President could not carry the state next year unless a Republican mayor was elected in New York city this year. In nominating Mr. McClellan, on the 1st October, Mr. John J. Delaney is reported as saying, "There is no hope for the Democrats to carry the United States unless we carry the State of New York, and we cannot carry the State of New York unless we carry the city of New York. We must nominate here a man of patriotic blood: a man who has never boasted of his ancestors, but has stood upon the ground: a man himself." Upon the name of Mr. McClellan being put to the vote 434 names were recorded in his favour, and 219 supported the nomination of Mr. Justice W. J. Gaynor. The boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx, Queens and Richmond went solid for Mr. McClellan while the Brooklyn delegates, with the exception of one man, voted for Mr. Gaynor. Mr. E. M. Groat was selected for Comptroller and Mr. C. V. Fornes for President of the Board of Agriculture. In Greater New York last year the Social Democratic vote was close on 15,000 as against 9,000 in 1901, and judging from the fact that another large majority has been recorded it would appear that Tammanyism is so deeply rooted that Republicanism will find it difficult to overturn this increasing Democratic plurality.

TELEGRAMS.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

RUSSIAN AGGRESSION.

MUKDEN REPORTED SEIZED.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

SHANGHAI, 3rd November, 12.6 p.m.

It is reported from Peking that Russia has seized Mukden.

STARLING COMPLICATIONS IN THE NORTH.

RUSSIAN PERFDY.

SHANGHAI, 3rd November, 10.6 a.m.

Acting upon the recommendations of Viceroy Yuan Shih-k'ai and Viceroy Chang Chi-tung the Grand Council met in the Summer Palace at Peking yesterday to consider the unwarrantable arrest of Tseng Chi, Tartar-General and Military Governor, by the Russians, at Mukden. The Grand Council also discussed the question of the obstructions which Russia is placing in the way of telegraphic communications between Peking and Fengtien. Serious complication is expected as a result of this high-handedness on the part of Russia.

SPECIE SMUGGLING IN THE STRAITS.

CONTRABAND COIN SEIZED.

(From Our Correspondent.)

SINGAPORE, November 4, 8.10 p.m.

The steamer *Pegu* from Acheen was boarded by the police in Penang harbour and forty-eight thousand British and Mexican dollars were seized on board. The Captain and thirteen others have been charged with importing prohibited coin into the colony, and remanded.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce is petitioning the Government, requesting the return of the seized specie and begging to be allowed a delay of two weeks so as to communicate with all their customers in the neighbouring countries with a view to prevent further shipments of the prohibited coin.

Opium Sales.

ANOTHER BIG RISE IN PRICES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

CALCUTTA, 2nd November.

The eleventh auction sale of opium took place to-day, when Patna realized Rs. 1,800 and Benares Rs. 1,485 per chest, showing a rise of Rs. 45 and Rs. 50 respectively, upon the last sale. The usual quantity of 2,000 chests of each quality was sold. [In the Indian Budget for 1903 the estimated value per chest was put down at Rs. 1,100. Upon the basis of Rs. 400 per chest realised over and above the Government estimate, the enormous excess of Rs. 19,20,000 for the year will be attained.—Ed., H.K.T.]

BOMBAY, 4th November.

The P. & O. mail steamer left Bombay to-day with about 1,050 chests of Malwa opium. Prices are:—

Malwa (New) ..Rs. 1,290
" (Old) ..1,380
" (Oldest) ..1,540

SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Thursday in the Board Room. Present:—The President (Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, P.C.M.O.), Hon. W. Chatham, (D.P.W.), Mr. Abner Rumjahn, Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Dr. Pearce, Acting M. O. H., Dr. Barnett, Assistant M. O. H., Capt. Lyons, Asst. Superintendent of the Police, Mr. E. A. Hewett, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meetings were confirmed.

CLAUSE 5.

The President proposed that clause 5 should be dealt with confidentially. Mr. E. A. Hewett stated that he did not see why the question should be dealt with confidentially, as there was nothing in the correspondence that justified such a course. The question had been raised by him before and he did so again because it regards quite a number of property holders. The President stated that a letter had been received from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. on the 30th October, owing to which he judged it would be well to submit the question to a sub-committee. Mr. Hewett said that he had not seen this letter; the last from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. that he had perused on the subject being dated the 18th August. The President said that there had been no time to circulate all the correspondence. This would be done however. Mr. Hewett stated that he proposed that this question should be treated in public discussion as he considered it to be one of the greatest importance.

On behalf of Mr. Li Lai Wo, Mr. B. Brotherton Harker wrote requesting that the water in a well at 19, Caine Road be analysed, and, if found fit for domestic purposes, that permission be granted to him to use it for such.

Among the minutes was one from Dr. Pearce stating that it was a rubble wall, and even if the water was found fit, he thought the Board should refuse permission, unless the well be cemented right close to the bottom of its sides and the top covered in and water only drawn by means of a pump.

The President said that this was an old well very liable to contamination. Permission was refused.

OPIMUM DIVAN.

A letter was submitted respecting an opium divan at 7 Upper Lascar Row. It was an inquiry to the effect that, if the tiles were removed from the floor and 3 inches of cement concrete, rendered impervious, laid down, the Board would recommend that the premises be fit to be registered as an opium divan.

The A. R. M. O.—minuted—I think in this case three inches of cement on the top of the present cement and tiles (half the floor is tiled and half cemented) would do very well, but there are several things in this matter which I am unable to decide. I would not be creating a dangerous precedent to allow the licence with only three inches of cement? 2. Would the floor stand an extra three inches of cement? I think not. Altogether this would be about 4½ inch thick. 3. If the floor has to be re-laid would three inches cost much less than six? I think not. I am of the opinion that the Board have no legal right to agree to the licence being granted when there are only three inches of cement on the floor unless the by-laws are altered.

The President stated that by the by-law it is necessary to have 6 inches of cement on the floor and moved that this be insisted upon. The motion was carried.

OPEN SPACES.

Mr. E. M. Hareland, on behalf of the owner of Nos. 127 to 145, Hollywood Road (8 houses), made an application to the Sanitary Board for exemption from the provision of open spaces under section 180 of the Public Health and Building Ordinance, and pointed out that in consequence of their situation the houses would always enjoy an unobstructed open space of an unlimited area in their rear, as the houses in Circular Pathway cannot be increased in height under Ord. 1 of 1903. The depth of the houses varies from 27 ft. to 33 ft. Each house would be well lighted and ventilated, as the fronts were practically open on the upper floors facing Hollywood Road. The windows would be each 3 ft. 6 in. by 7 ft. Exemption from the provision of yard space

was granted to the owner by the Sanitary Board in May, 1902, in respect of existing houses.

The Director of Public Works minuted—I see that the scavenging lane is shown to be only 3 ft. in width and it would be impossible to widen in future by taking 3 ft. from the adjacent houses as they are on a much lower level. I think exemption might be recommended on condition that the lane is made 6 ft. wide and that no compensation is to be paid in respect to it.

Dr. Barnett minuted—I think exemption from provision of an open space might be granted in this case so long as the window in the rear is not cut off from the main room so as to form a lobby.

He also minuted—In the rear of these proposed houses is a retaining wall on which the rear wall will stand. This retaining wall has been patched considerably and is somewhat bulged in places. I think the P.W.D. should have their attention called to this retaining wall so that they may consider, if they have not already done so, as to whether it is capable of upholding this enormous weight of the proposed rear wall.

The President said that exemption was granted last year for the existing houses and this application was made in reference to the proposed extension under section 180. He moved that the exemption be granted subject to the conditions stipulated by the Director of Public Works.

Captain Lyons seconded and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Rumjahn rose and drew the attention of the Board to certain irregularity in the performance of duty by the Asst. Medical Officer of Health in this matter and referred to that officer's second minute. He moved that the Standing Orders be suspended to enable him to make his remarks on the subject.

The President—I think it is necessary to give notice of motion so as to allow that officer to make any explanation he may think necessary.

Mr. Rumjahn—Certain remarks made by the Asst. M. O. H. would have depreciated the value of this property. Dr. Barnett has no business to make these statements. He is not an engineer, and I beg to say that he is not.

The President: I must call you to order. You should have given notice of motion to suspend the Standing Orders.

Mr. Hewett:—I second Mr. Rumjahn's motion that the Standing Orders be suspended so as to enable him to make his statement at this meeting.

The motion was put to the meeting and carried.

Mr. Rumjahn—Sir, on reference to the plan attached to the papers it is clear that the rear wall of the proposed houses, for which exemption has been applied for will not stand on the retaining wall. It is 3 feet away from it. Dr. Barnett's remark that it will stand on that retaining wall is wrong. He even does not understand the plan sent in to the Board attached to the papers. He took a great deal of trouble to examine the retaining wall—another man's property—and stated that it had been patched up considerably and was somewhat bulged. These statements are inaccurate. That was a rubble wall. He must have wasted a considerable time in examining that wall, which formed the back wall of eight houses in the rear of the houses for which the application has been made. He had to go through eight houses and then formed his opinion on the condition of that wall. I submit, Sir, that an officer should not have acted as he had done. If he had confined himself to the sanitary part of the matter leaving the Building Authority to do his great deal of unnecessary annoyance and waste of time would have been averted. He was not competent to act as an engineer. By sending the papers backward and forward to the P. W. D. a great deal of time was unnecessarily wasted. The Building Authority could look after himself better without the M. O. H.'s interference.

WATER SUPPLY.

The results of the water analyses show that the water drawn from the Kowloon, Tytam and Pokfulam services and from the Cheung-shan supply, is of excellent quality.

For the fortnight ended inst. 676 rats were caught in Victoria and 157 at Kowloon, of which 19 and 9, respectively, were infected.

MESSRS. BISMARCK & CO.

THE PARTNERSHIP DISPUTE.

Sitting in Appellate Jurisdiction at the Supreme Court on Monday, their Lordships Sir M. G. G. (Chief Justice), and A. G. Wise (Puisne Judge) proceeded with the hearing of the motion for leave to appeal against a decision of Mr. Justice Wise, in the 19th September last, on questions of fact in the case brought by Kwong Sing Hing, Kwong Kam Chuen, Lau Chung Ming and Tung Pui Cheong, alias Pui Cheung Tong, trading under the name of Hop Shing Tong, against Kwok Chui Hin of 18, Connaught Road Central.

It was alleged, that His Lordship had, contrary to the evidence, found as facts that (a) the document sued upon in the action had been altered since the appellant affixed his signature; (b) that there was no condition that the document was not to be sued upon until the accounts of the Port Arthur business had been gone into jointly by the appellant and by somebody on behalf of the respondents; (c) that there was no agreement made to the parties in the month of June, 1903, for the Chinese agreement to be entered into between them with reference to the consideration to be paid by the appellant to the respondents for the Port Arthur business; (d) that the letter Exhibit 10 to which showed the value of the Port Arthur assets to be only \$23,700 was probably invented for the purpose of the said action; on the ground that one Shing Kwai, otherwise Yew Hing, was a material and necessary witness upon the facts enumerated in (d) and that His Lordship refused to allow an adjournment of the action on the application of the appellant for the purpose of allowing time for Shing Kwai to come down from Dalny to give evidence; and on the question of law on the ground that the respondents and appellant having agreed together for the purchase of the Port Arthur business by the appellant for the sum of \$25,000 upon the basis that the assets of the said business were valued at \$27,000, whereas in truth and in fact the assets were valued at \$27,700 only there was no consideration for the payment by the appellant to the respondents of the sum of \$1,000 which was mentioned in the document sued upon or of any sum or sums of money whatever other than the said sum aggregating \$16,000 which the respondents had already prior to the commencement of the action, received from the appellant.

Hon. B. E. Pollock, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton), appeared for the appellant, and first directed the attention of the Court to the form of action. He said he believed the endorsement on the five writs of summons was identical in its terms, the plaintiffs claiming from the defendant \$1,000, due on a promissory note, dated 31st May, 1903. Therefore, the first point to be noted was that the plaintiffs, in the summary of facts, were not the respondents, but the claim was upon a document which they alleged to be a promissory note, and it was, of course,

important to consider what was the exact document which was signed by the appellant, who was the defendant in the action, in order to see whether that document was, or was not, a promissory note. If it was not, then, he submitted, judgment should have been entered for the defendant in the previous action. Upon the point as to how the documents stood at the time when the appellant affixed his signature to them there was, as there so often was in cases where Chinese witnesses were concerned, a discrepancy of evidence. The appellant alleged that certain words were inserted in Chinese in the promissory notes, or rather the documents, as they did not admit they were promissory notes, stating, "It is distinctly agreed that the term is one month, when repayment shall be made. This is proof. Dated Kwang-shu, 29th year, 5th moon, 5th day."

The Puisne Judge—Suppose the document was signed as it stands now, you don't dispute it?

Hon. Pollock—No, my lord.

The Puisne Judge—What you say is that certain words were added, and it was not a promissory note until those words were added?

Hon. Pollock—Yes. Subsequent to signature and without the knowledge or consent of the appellant. Continuing, he said there was a discrepancy of evidence upon that point, and, of course, the respondents being more in number than the appellant, he was, so to speak, by himself into the matter.

The Chief Justice—There was a conflict of testimony as to whether there was an alteration or not. I understand your point is that the learned judge found as a fact that the appellant had not been altered since the appellant signed it.

Hon. Pollock—That is so, my lord.

The Chief Justice pointed out that Counsel had to bear in mind that, where a judge, sitting alone as a jury, found as a fact such and such a thing, the Court of Appeal would not disturb that ruling unless it was made absolutely clear that in this he was wrong. He directed his attention to two cases he had consulted to make himself clear on the point. One was the case of *Savage v. Adams*, reported in the *Weekly Notes*, for 1895, at page 109, and the other was the case of *Colonial Security Trust Company, Limited v. Attorney-General*, Bench Division. His Lordship proceeded to quote passages from the cases bearing on the point, and said—

The Hon. Pollock directed his attention to a later case, referred to in the *Annual Practice*, 1903, at page 813, which, after referring to the point mentioned by His Lordship, cited the two cases and showed that on a rehearing on appeal of a case tried by a judge without a jury it was not governed by the rules applicable; where there had been a trial and verdict by a jury the Court of Appeal must act on its own calculations on questions of fact as well as of law.

The Chief Justice said that in that case Counsel would probably find the evidence was taken on commission, and the Court would always attach great importance to the finding of the judge below on the facts, as he was in the position of seeing the witnesses and noting their demeanour.

The Hon. Pollock proceeded to quote the case of *Copeland v. Cumberland*, 1898, 1, Chancery Division, page 704 and submitted there were other circumstances in the present case not dependent upon the question of denunciation of the witnesses, and which it was very important for the Court to take into consideration. But before going into these particular circumstances, he 'rewrote' their Lordships' attention to the evidence of the Court translator, an entirely disinterested witness, who gave testimony regarding passages in the documents which appellant alleged were interpolations.

The Court dealt with the point at length, and during the discussion.

The Chief Justice observed that the evidence was not very satisfactory one way or another on either side. It seemed to him that the offer for the Port Arthur business was a sporting one, and if a proper account had been taken of the business there would have been no occasion for the documents in dispute.

Argument then followed on the allegation regarding His Lordship's refusal to grant an adjournment of the former action for the purpose of allowing time for Yew Hing to come down from Dalny to give evidence.

The Chief Justice said he was against Mr. Pollock on the point, observing that, if, in his opinion, a wrong decision was given he could have appealed in Chambers. That was not done.

Considerable discussion ensued upon the point, and the Court subsequently adjourned. After further argument this afternoon the Chief Justice reserved his decision and made the following notes of the case—I am of opinion that the learned judge below did not lay down any erroneous proposition of law as to the fact. As regards law, I reserve my decision. As regards fact, I decline to upset the decision of the judge below, the evidence being conflicting and, in my opinion, strongly for the plaintiffs. As regards law, I consider it has no merits. As regards fact, I will reserve my decision. As regards law, I will reserve my decision. As regards fact, I will reserve my decision. As regards law, I will reserve my decision. As regards fact, I will reserve my decision.

CLAIM FOR LEGAL EXPENSES.

At the Supreme Court on Tuesday the Puisne Judge, His Honour A. G. Wise heard a claim brought by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton against Wong Chi Nam and Lai Kan Sang to recover the sum of \$371.25 for work done and \$82, amount of money expended as solicitor for defendants.

Mr. F. Paget Hett appeared in support of the claim, and Lai Kan Sang attended in person, the other defendant being absent.

It appeared that the case had already been before the Court when defendants were advised to get the bill of costs taxed, but had not done so.

His Lordship—(to defendant)—Why didn't you get this bill taxed?

Defendant—Because it is connected with five people.

Mr. Hett said the bill was for work done by him personally during the months of September, October and November last year. He heard the Court direct the defendants to get the bill taxed, and understood that the men objected to certain items, but he showed them the scale and they appeared satisfied.

Defendant said the bill was divided amongst five persons, one of whom had since died. They were each willing to pay their own share.

His Lordship—The bill, for plaintiff with costs, observing that defendants would not take his advice and consequently had to pay for it.

Defendant said the bill was divided amongst five persons, one of whom had since died. They were each willing to pay their own share.

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BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS.

PETITION FOR RECEIVING ORDER.

Mr. C. E. H. Beavis appeared before the Chief Justice at the Supreme Court on Thursday in support of a creditors' petition for a receiving order presented by the Hop Wo Chan firm of Californian flour merchants, of 236, Des Voeux Road, against the Chy Loong firm of bakers, carrying on business at 102, Wellington Street and 107, 109 and 111, Wanchai Road. It appeared from the petition of Pang Chun Ngo, managing partner of the Hop Wo Chan firm, that the Chy Loong firm was indebted to the petitioning creditors in the sum of \$6,804.03 being money lent and interest due. The stock-in-hand, machinery and furniture, etc. of debtor was valued at \$3,100. The money had been lent to debtors for business purposes and interest was at the rate of \$1.15 per cent. per month.

The receiving order was made.

AN AWKWARD PREDICAMENT.

DEBTORS' PETITION.

Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton petitioned on behalf of the Ku Fat, of 76 Bonham Strand, and the Ku Fat Chan, of 289 Queen's Road Central, importers of European goods, for a receiving order in respect of their estates that they might be adjudged bankrupt. He said the declaration had been filed by one of three petitioners. The manager of the firm had gone away and had appointed another manager, who, it was alleged, declined to pay any debts of the firm and was practically making away with the money. Therefore, the only way to protect the creditors was to make the firm bankrupt. The present manager seemed to be squandering the money and wasting the assets of the firm. It was set forth in the petition that these assets amounted to \$6,624, made up as follows: book debts, \$2,099; goods at 76, Bonham Strand, \$1,200; goods at 289, Queen's Road Central, \$3,000; furniture, fixtures, etc., at both places, \$300 and cash in hand \$25. Of the book debts \$1,899 were good debts, and the firm's liabilities amounted to \$7,800, or thereabouts.

His Lordship said he would like to know more about the partners.

Mr. Brutton explained that under the Bankruptcy Ordinance a petition had to be signed by two or more partners whereas he was petitioning by three.

His Lordship thought it was extraordinary if it were so, and said it seemed to him that if the members of a firm wanted their firm to be made bankrupt surely they must all join in the petition. He did not understand why partners, who were not represented in any shape or form, should be made bankrupts.

Lau Yip, a partner in the Ku Fat firm, said the firm consisted of eleven partners.

His Lordship said he would like to know what the other eight partners, who had not petitioned, had to say about the matter.

Mr. Brutton—These people wish to pay their debts, and the others do not. If no receiving order is made money will be received and taken away.

His Lordship—My first difficulty is—I don't see it is impossible to overcome it—how is it only three men out of eleven petition?

Mr. Brutton—The former manager has gone to Penang, and has appointed another man in his place, and he declines to recognise these people, and says he is not going to pay any debts, although the firm has been pressed for payment. This man may go at any moment.

His Lordship—Is not that rather a reason why a creditor should come forward and ask to have a receiver of the estate appointed? Will you show me any case in which, say three partners out of eleven, may alone ask?

Mr. Bruce Shepherd (Official Receiver)—The practice here, my Lord, has been that the firm itself petitions and two partners sign it. This petition ought to be amended.

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SIR HENRY BLAKE

AND THE CHINESE COMMUNITY.

In recognition and grateful appreciation of His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake's solicitude for the Chinese during the epidemic of plague this year, we hear the *Kaifong* of No. 9 District intend to present a special address to His Excellency before his departure from the Colony. The Governor's efforts in connection with the plague and the experimental blocks will be fresh in the memory of the community. Those efforts appear to have been very strongly to the Chinese residents of the districts who feel that, before Sir Henry takes leave from these shores, they should publicly make their sense of recognition of the good they have derived from the measures initiated by His Excellency.

THE RECENT BAZAAR

IN AID OF THE MINISTERING CHILDREN'S LEAGUE.

The Bazaar recently held by the Ministering Children's League, proved a decided financial success, and the net proceeds reached a little over \$1,000, which will be divided between Miss Hamper's Victoria Home and Orphanage, and Postler's School for the Blind.

This satisfactory result is due to those who generously assisted the undertaking, and to the public who patronized the Bazaar in such large numbers. We are requested to state that the members of the League are greatly indebted to the following, who so kindly assisted them by various contributions:

Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., The Robinson Piano Co., Messrs. A. Chee & Co., Messrs. Girault, Mr. T. Curcuen, Messrs. Campbell and Moore, The Mother Superior, Italian Convent, The St. Patrick's Club, The Amateur Dramatic Company, The Acting Superintendent, Botanical and Afforestation Department, Mr. Henry Humphreys, The Committee of the City Hall, Major Pritchard and the Hongkong Volunteers, Comm. dore Robinson, Mr. Jones and a party of men from H.M.S. *Tamar*, who were indefatigable in their efforts to promote the success of the entertainment. Thanks are also due to Colonel Birdwood and Officers of the 10th M. L. Co. who kindly lent their band, and Mr. Branson of the same corps who gave two excellent performances. The Misses Loureir, who organized the excellent children's play, one of the chief features of the gathering, are worthy of all gratitude as are the friends of the members who assisted by supplying the cakes, etc. The Society desires to thank the Press who kindly advertised the Bazaar.

THE MIKADO'S BIRTHDAY.

The buildings occupied by the Japanese banks, steamship and commercial companies and merchants, trading in this city, were tastefully decorated on Tuesday in honour of the birthday of H.M. the Emperor of Japan. The national colours of Nihon, white and red, of course, predominated, and in several cases, were blended with the red ensign. The Yokohama Specie Bank, Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Nisui Bishi Goshi-Kaisha, Osaka Shosen Kaisha, Toyo Kisen Kaisha and Messrs. Sato, Nagata & Co. were particularly lavish in their display. The Japanese Consulate was elaborately bedecked with flags, flowers, and fairy-lamps, and H.M. Consul, Mr. Noma, entertained to dinner a number of the leading members of the community, amongst them the present being Mr. H. Ito, of the Yokohama Specie Bank, Mr. T. Takayanagi of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; Mr. N. Inuzuka, of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Mr. K. Nakashima of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha and Mr. T. Arima of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. By kind permission of Colonel Birdwood and officers of the 10th B. L. I. the band of that regiment played during the evening. During the dinner enthusiastic toasts were drunk to the Emperor and the members of the Imperial Family. The reunion was to the enjoyment of all present, and of a friendly and formal character, and amongst other distractions, the numerous guests were entertained by an exhibition of some very good examples of Japanese character-dancing.

BELLIOS TERRACE ROBBERY.

INTERESTING FACTS.

The continuation of the Bellios Terrace robbery case was heard before Mr. Sercombe Smith yesterday, when Lui Ngai was brought up on remand.

Mr. F. B. L. Rowley, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted.

Chan Cheung, the man who had been committed for trial at the last hearing in connection with the case, went into the witness-box and gave evidence. He said he was an unemployed carpenter, and before his arrest was living in a coolie house at Fast Point. About six o'clock of the morning of the robbery the defendant called on him. He went downstairs, and was surprised to see other men there. They went to the Tak Hing men shop, and there met two other men whom he did not know. During tea a conversation was opened about Bellios Terrace, the defendant observing they would go there so they left the tea-shop and went to an opium divan at Stanley Street, where three of them had a smoke while the remainder slept. Lui Ngai awoke them and said he was ready for "work," and at about 10 o'clock they left the divan and went as far as the stone steps leading up to Bellios Terrace. The leader of the gang told them to wait there while the went up to have a look around. After a while the man came back and subsequently took them to the door of 18 Bellios Terrace. Lui Ngai produced a letter from his pocket. When asked as witnesses the door was locked when they arrived and he did not see who opened it. Four of the gang entered the house and witness remained outside. In about twenty minutes the men returned. He did not see the rags used for gags etc., as they had been wrapped in paper in the Wing Fung boarding house. When he asked Fey Chai Nguen what he had in the parcel, the reply he got was that he was taking something to the house. The clothes were used for hanging over stairs and must have been taken from the Yuen Wole lodging house where he had previously seen them. After the robbery he left for 23, Queen's Road, East, and subsequently returned to the lodging house and found that his *confines* had left. Later in the evening he saw Lui Ngai, and asked where the other men were, and was told they had run away. After defendant had pawned a silver watch witness received \$5. He did not know how much it was pawned for.

Lui Ngai, in defence, stated that he was in the Public Gardens with a friend, and five men approached him, and asked him to go and have a bath. He asked them where? "Up there," they replied. They proceeded towards Bellios Terrace, and one of them said "let us go up and get something to eat." When they arrived at the steps, Fey Chai Nguen produced a letter, which he handed him to take up. He declined, saying he was tired. Yow Chai took the letter. They went up with the intention of getting something to eat, but he saw Yow Chai knock the door, and five

others followed him up. He asked Chan Cheung what the matter was, and the reply he got was "robbery, steal the mistress's things." He wanted to run back but was told that he need not go upstairs, and whether he ran or not he was taking part. Hearing the dog bark, he ran away with Chan Cheung following, as far as Bowington, where he spoke to some friends, saying that Fey Chai Nguen had got him into trouble. When it was getting dark he returned home, and someone in his lodging-house told him to go to Chan Cheung's boarding house. He went there and one of the men gave him a silver watch and a bangle to pawn. He refused to do anything of the kind, and was forced him to accept 50 cents as a bribe. On descending the stairs, Fey Chai Nguen and Yow Chai shouted out, "If you give the secret away we will beat you to death."

Defendant was committed for trial at the next Criminal Sessions.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT OPIUM PROSECUTION.

ANTIDOTAL PILLS.

At the Magistrate's Court on Wednesday, Mr. Kemp proceeded with the summons under the Opium Ordinance, of 1891, against Leung Tai Chuen, of 324 Queen's Road Central, for preparing opium, selling or otherwise exposing for sale prepared opium, and dealing in or preparing dross opium, on the 15th September last.

Mr. F. B. Deacon, of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, appeared on behalf of the Opium Farmers, and Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton represented the defendant. The first case taken was the against Leung Tai Chuen, of 324, Queen's Road Central.

Mr. Deacon said that the decision in one case would probably govern that in each of the others as the facts were substantially the same. The charge was laid under section 10 of Ordinance 21 of 1891—an Ordinance framed for the protection of the Opium Farmer—and to preserve his proper rights; for they paid a very large sum annually to the Government and it was only right that their interests should be protected. The section in question was as follows:—

—No person except the opium farmer shall, within the Colony, prepare opium. No person except the opium farmer and any duly licensed person under this Ordinance shall sell or expose for sale any prepared opium. No person except the dross farmer and any duly licensed person under this Ordinance shall deal in or prepare dross opium. Provided that no medical practitioner, chemist or druggist not being a Chinese or, being such, and having an European or American diploma shall be prevented from preparing or selling opium *bona fide* for medicinal purposes, and provided that no trader in opium shall be prevented from *bona fide* testing samples of opium obtained in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 22 of 1887, or any Ordinance amending the same and keeping the same for the purposes of his trade, the burden of proof whereof shall, in each case be upon the person alleging the same in his defence. He drew particular attention to the proviso and proceeded to refer to the facts of the case, the selling price of prepared opium, and dross opium having been raised in September last, and said the farmer anticipated that, in consequence, there would be a certain drop in their sales for the time being. There was a habit among Chinese of taking opium in pills, and since the rise in the price of the drug there had been a large increase in their sale. The opium farmers obtained a large number of bottles containing the pills, amongst which was one obtained from defendant. The contents had been analysed and the result of the analysis would be brought before the Court. Having given a summary of the testimony he intended bringing forward Mr. Deacon proceeded to call his witnesses.

Excise Officer No. 69, employed by the farmers, gave evidence showing that on the 15th September last he purchased a bottle of pills from the defendant's shop for which he paid ten cents. He asked for opium pills. At the time there were more than ten persons in the shop buying the pills.

Mr. Frank Browne, Government Analyst, gave evidence to the effect that he recently analysed one of the pills contained in the bottle produced. The analysis showed the presence of morphine and meconic acid. Each pill contained about one-twentieth part of a grain of morphine. About one-half grain of opium. Meconic acid afforded strong evidence of the presence of opium, and the presence of morphine with it would be conclusive as to the presence of opium. In opium the presence of morphine varied from about four to twelve per cent, and in the Colony the opium farmer's extract contained about nine per cent.

By Mr. Brutton:—He only tested the samples for the presence of morphine and meconic acid. Dr. Gibson, of the firm of Jordan and Gibson, medical practitioners, said that other than by gradually reducing the amount of the drug taken there was no medical antidote for opium. There were two ways of effecting a cure—by gradual reduction and the other by absolutely cutting it. The latter method, however, was dangerous unless the person was under strict medical supervision. It would be possible to proceed to effect a cure by taking the drug internally and the taking of pills in question was a way of taking opium into the system. By so doing it was possible to effect a cure, but the cure would be very slow indeed.

By Mr. Brutton:—Excepting morphine and meconic acid he did not know what the ingredients of the pills were.

Chan Kai Ming, manager of the dross opium farm, stated that the price of prepared opium was raised from the 15th September last, with the result that there had been a considerable falling off in the sales. He had not heard of any antidote, although a smoker could, of course, diminish the consumption. Pills were taken to assist people in the cure, and had been taken in Hongkong for such a purpose for a number of years, apart from these means and a sort of wine, which smokers took, he had heard of no other cure. Regarding the falling off in the sales it was partly anticipated, but there was an increase in the sale of pills. By purchasing pills in such a way a purchaser obtained them very much cheaper than he would otherwise be able to do. At one time the dross farmer received a fee from vendors of opium pills for the right to sell them; witness had taken pills similar to the ones in question, and by so doing was able to dispense with some of his smoking. He took the pills three times a day in doses of twelve at a time.

By Mr. Brutton:—The translation of the Chinese characters on the label gummed on the bottle read: "The first established pills for cutting off the opium habit." All classes of people bought the pills. The raising of the price of opium would principally affect coolies. The price of opium was raised in September from \$2 a unit to \$2.50 a unit. The falling off in the sales had been partly compensated for by the increase in the price. It was said that the pills were looked upon as a means of breaking off the opium habit. The license fee referred to was received for three years. This was about six years ago and the fee had not been paid since. He was sure the fee was not discontinued on the advice of coolies.

Mr. Brutton called no witnesses. Mr. Deacon submitted that on the evidence it was clearly shown an offence under the Ordinance had been committed. The price of opium having been raised, many people took it in a very much cheaper form by resorting to pills. It seemed to him perfectly clear that all he had to prove was the presence of opium in the pills, and that the pills were sold by some one other than a medical practitioner, chemist or druggist as defined in the proviso to section 10 of the Ordinance. He had proved those points, and, as the opium farmers were entitled to protection, having regard to the large sum paid to Government, he asked his Worship to inflict as heavy a penalty as was open to him to do.

His Worship pointed out that it had not been proved whether the pill contained raw or prepared opium, subject to that point, he argued that it had not been shown the defendant was not a duly licensed person, or that he was not a Chinaman and did not hold a European or American diploma. He proceeded to refer to the definitions of dross and prepared opium, and, after going into the questions arising at some length, his Worship decided to adjourn the case until Thursday.

SUMMONS DISMISSED.

The case was continued on the following day when,

Mr. Deacon said that his friend contended yesterday afternoon that the prosecution had failed to prove that defendant was not a medical practitioner, chemist or druggist as mentioned in the proviso to section 10 of the Ordinance, but he did not intend troubling his Worship on that point beyond submitting that the burden of proof rested on the defence. Regarding the contention that the prosecution had not shown whether the opium in the pills was prepared or dross, he submitted that the definition of prepared opium given at the commencement of the Ordinance did not apply to the sub-section in question, and was only applicable to cases where the Opium Farmers' privilege of preparing opium in the Colony had been infringed. That being so the words had to be construed in their ordinary meaning.

His Worship:—There is the definition of preparation.

Mr. Brutton:—And of prepared opium.

Mr. Deacon was proceeding to argue the facts, when

Mr. Brutton said he did not quite know how they stood with regard to the case, as he understood his friend was going to call only evidence regarding dross opium.

Mr. Deacon replied that he proposed proving that the opium must have been, in some sense, prepared or adapted for its present use, without any reference as to whether it had been subjected to any degree of artificial heat or any process whatever beyond the necessary process of preparing it in its present form. His Worship:—According to the definition "preparation" is submitting it to any degree of artificial heat for any purpose whatsoever.

Mr. Frank Browne, Government Analyst, recalled, stated that he was acquainted with opium in its raw state, and had in the course of his practice here made exhaustive researches into the drug. The opium contained in the pills in question was not pure and had not the smell or the taste of pure opium. In his opinion the opium in the pills was a mixture, and did not resemble raw opium, or opium as found in commerce.

By Mr. Brutton:—The opium in the pills was not of the same appearance as raw opium. The pills contained ingredients other than opium. He was not prepared to say how the pills were made, or could he name the other ingredients. He was unable to state whether the opium was raw or prepared.

By His Worship:—He could not say whether the opium in question had been subjected to any degree of artificial heat. The pills might consist of raw opium mixed with other ingredients.

Mr. Brutton then addressed the Court, and said he understood that his friend had withdrawn the first charge as to preparing opium in the Colony.

Mr. Deacon:—I have not given any evidence on that point.

Mr. Brutton contended that the prosecution had absolutely failed to show the opium in the pills was dross opium, the evidence of Mr. Browne having shown to the effect that he was unable to say whether the pills were made or were not made of dross opium. If His Worship agreed with him on that point he would not go any further with it.

Mr. Kemp intimated that he preferred to hear Mr. Brutton further on the issue.

Mr. Brutton turned to the definition of dross opium, and said it was opium prepared wholly or chiefly from the refuse produced by smoking opium. That was the definition, and that was what the prosecution had to prove. They had to show that the opium used in the pills was prepared wholly or chiefly from the refuse produced by smoking opium.

Mr. Browne could not say whether it was dross or prepared opium in the pills. Therefore the prosecution failed on that point. Then with regard to defendant having sold in dross opium and having offered for sale, or sold it, the other side had entirely failed to prove the point. As to the word "prepare" dross opium, preparation was defined as subjecting the opium to some degree of artificial heat, and there again Mr. Browne was unable to enlighten the Court on the point as to whether the opium in the pills had been subjected to artificial heat. The Court was bound to accept the definition of prepared opium, which stated that "Prepared opium shall so far as relates to the infringing of the opium farmers' privilege of preparing opium in the Colony, mean opium which has been subjected to any degree of artificial heat for any purpose whatever, and shall include dross opium wherever used in construction is consistent with the context." It would be absurd to have definitions to apply to certain sections of the Ordinance. In order to prove their case under the sub-section the prosecution must prove the sale of or offering, or exposing for sale in the Colony prepared opium, and also the preparation of the opium in the Colony. In order that a breach of the Ordinance be committed it must be an infringement of the opium farmer's privilege of preparing opium; therefore, the case failed under that section.

His Worship said he did not agree with the contention that the opium must be prepared in the Colony, before it constituted an infringement. Mr. Brutton pointed out that in order to be an infringement it must be proved that the defendant had prepared the pills, and that he had prepared the pills in the Colony. Regarding the proviso that "No medical practitioner, chemist or druggist not being a Chinese or, being such, and having an European or American diploma shall be prevented from preparing or selling opium *bona fide* for medicinal purposes," he submitted that in drafting the Ordinance medicinal preparations containing opium were not contemplated. It was selling opium *bona fide* for medicinal purposes, and it was not contemplated that the opium farmers should have the privilege of preventing cough mixtures, chlorodyne, cough lozenges and other patent medicines containing opium being sold by any storekeeper in the Colony. That was absurd, and he referred his Worship to the Straits Settlements Ordinance No. 9 of 1894, passed for the purpose of meeting the difficulty, and which laid down that it did not cover medicines in which opium was contained. The whole of Ordinance 21 of 1891 contemplated opium used for smoking purposes, or opium in its pure form—opium and *bona fide* as opium and not as an ingredient with other mixtures. He submitted most strongly that the prosecution had failed to make out their case and defendant must therefore be discharged.

His Worship held that the prosecution had failed to prove the nature of the opium in the pills and dismissed the case.

Mr. Deacon intimated that he would make an application for leave to appeal, pending which further cases were adjourned.

DARING ROBBERY AT MORRISON HILL GAP.

A Chinese thief broke into a European house, No. 3, Morrison Hill Gap, in the early hours yesterday. This dwelling was the scene of a similar crime several months ago, when a silver watch and money were stolen from the inmates and the thief got away untraced. This time, however, the culprit and his associate were captured and the stolen property recovered. At the time the robbery took place the occupants of the house were asleep, with the exception of Mr. Luong, who was kept awake, as he was suffering from a sprained hand. About 2 a.m. a Chinaman climbed up the rain-pipe and got on to the first-floor verandah. He went into several rooms and searched about for some time without attracting attention subsequently went to the bed side of Mr. Luong, and took down a coat from which he extracted a silver watch and money. He was about to continue his search of the premises when the gentleman who had been robbed sprang out of bed and chased him on to the verandah. The Chinaman managed to get over in the nick of time and climbed along the verandahs of different houses. Mr. Luong, thereupon, aroused the other inmates and ran down into the street in time to see another man acting as a scout, hiding under a tree. On reaching the road he saw the thief succeed in reaching the ground by sliding down a rain pipe. He thereupon chased the Chinaman and managed to catch him near the Naval Hospital, though during the chase the thief threw the watch into a nullah. The accomplice had fled in an opposite direction. Sergeant Landers now came upon the scene, and the rogue was placed into custody, and the watch was recovered and handed over to the police. At about six o'clock this morning a Chinese detective visited an opium divan at No. 64, Stanley Street, and effected the arrest of the second man, who had been on sentry outside the house at Morrison Hill Gap. This native told the detective that he did not take part in the robbery, but only followed his chum. They were charged before Mr. Sercombe Smith yesterday. It was ascertained that they were unemployed vagabonds, having only lately arrived in the Colony. The thief was sentenced to four months' hard labour, and to be exhibited for six months in the stocks, and his accomplice to one month's gaol and three hours in the stocks.

NOTES FROM THE NEW TERRITORY.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

November 5th.

In a recent issue, we published information concerning the sinking of a flower-boat, which was being towed by the launch *Wing Lok*, on the Samchun river. This boat has now been raised and the body of another victim was found inside of it. It is rumoured that, at the time the accident occurred, the *Wing Lok* had not a licensed coxswain on board. Several other calamities of this kind are likely to occur so long as the authorities do not insist that launches used for towing purposes are provided with long wooden fenders outside, so that junks, when lashed alongside, cannot get under the stern board of the tug. Rumours are rife that San Tin police station is about to be done away with and it is very doubtful if this will prove a wise measure. Robberies are frequent in the district and along the Chinese border, and the thieves enjoy a certain advantage in being able to commit their depredations in our territory at night and get back almost immediately over the frontier, where it is impossible to secure their capture. The Chinese are beginning to cut the paddy-crop, and in some of the fields they have commenced getting in the sugar-cane. The cane season sets for trial by the authorities does not seem to interest the natives, for, up to the present, it has not given better results than the local plant; with the exception of a small plantation at San Tin police station, where it has been grown to nearly double the size of the ordinary cane. This is probably owing to the better care given to its cultivation. Mr. Chubb, who is in charge of the I. M. C. Station at Samchun, was recently robbed of a considerable quantity of jewelry by his boy. There seems to be little chance of recovering the stolen property and all efforts to capture the culprit have proved unavailing. The following promotions amongst the I. M. C. officers stationed in the district have recently been announced. Mr. (Larkson) to be acting boat-officer at Amoy. Mr. M. Power to be 1st class tide-waiter and acting harbour-master at Wuchow. Mr. Husted to be acting examiner at Fi-Lin-Tin. Messrs. Davis, McKenzie, Anderson and Potter are all promoted to be 1st class tide-waiters. Shooting prospects are poor in the New Territory, snipe is much scarcer than last year and the heavy rain during the hatching-season has killed off most of the partidge chicks. Quails are few and far between. In Deep Bay there are already considerable quantities of duck, but the birds are very wild and the big stretches of mud-flats make it difficult to approach them to within anything like an effective range. Chan Na Kit, the military mandarin in charge of the Mantau district, was recently called to Canton by the Viceroy. It was rumoured that he would be dismissed from his appointment, but he has recently returned with 150 servants.

V.R.C. REGATTA.

Crews for the Chairman's Challenge Cup, selected on the 4th instant, are as follows:—

- Thetis*—Station 1.
T. Miller—stroke.
A. E. Asger.
J. A. Musso.
J. A. S. Alves.
- Shamrock*—Station 2.
R. Lapsley—stroke.
R. C. Wittchell.
F. D. Bain.
N. H. Alves.
- Kornblume*—Station 3.
A. E. Alves—stroke.
H. C. Austin.
A. L. Loureiro.
G. H. Kube.
- Rosa*—Station 4.
C. E. A. Hance—stroke.
F. M. Rosa Pereira.
H. S. Holmes.
F. K. Taka.

Mr. HAGIWARA, Secretary of the Japanese Legation at Seoul, has wired to his Government that the Russian so-called signal station at Yung-Ampho is a fort, mounting five or six guns.

"BINGO MARU" AND RAT FLANGES.

CONVICTED NOT FINED.

Before Mr. J. H. Kemp at the Magistracy on Wednesday afternoon Mr. F. Davies, R.N.R., Captain of the s.s. *Bingo Maru*, was charged with failing to provide the moorings of his ship with double rat flanges. The Captain pleaded not guilty.

Mr. S. 97, deposed that at about 9.30 a.m., he noticed the *Bingo Maru* lying alongside the Kowloon Wharf. On one of the buoys there was attached a single funnel, on the stern moorings there were double flanges which were attached the wrong way about. Replying to Captain Davies witness stated that he was certain that the ship was moored and discharging her cargo but that there were no people on the wharf. The Chief Officer gave evidence to the effect that he was told by the Captain of the ship to be very careful regarding rat flanges. The ship was discharging cargo, and there were many people on the wharf. The ship had five hatches, and on each hatch about 30 to 40 coolies were at work. The writ was received a little before noon, and the work regarding the prevention of rats was not yet finished. The Captain addressing the Court said that he found it difficult to decide what he was to do. He did not think rats could leave or board the ship when work was at its fullest.

His Worship: You are convicted, but not fined.

Capt. Davies: Very well.

WANCHAI MURDER CASE.

TWO MEN ARRESTED.

Before Mr. Sercombe Smith, at the Magistracy on Wednesday, Tsang Shing and Tsang Tim Kwai, cooks, were charged with wilfully and of their malice aforethought murdering a native married woman named Leung So on 30th May last. It will be remembered that some time that month while a native was crossing the corner of the Government Wanchai Store, leading from Praya East, he knocked against what appeared to be a dead body. Information was at once conveyed to No. 2 Police Station, and Inspector Collet and a party of police proceeded to the scene and found, to their amazement, that the body was that of a woman in the last stages of life. A terrible wound in the abdomen, where the bowels protruded, and other injuries, inflicted by a sharp weapon, were found on other parts of the body, especially in the arms and the lower limbs. An ambulance was immediately sent for, but before the hospital was reached, the poor woman expired.

Chief Detective Inspector Hanson said that at 1.30 p.m. on the 2nd inst., he arrested Tsang Shing in Lower Albert Road, outside the Diddy Far Office, and took him to the Central Police Station. He told him the charge and cautioned him, and defendant denied the charge.

Lo Cheung, a Chinese detective, deposed that on the evening of the 2nd inst., at about 11.30 he proceeded to No. 8, Amoy Lane, in company with Detective Hanson, and a European sergeant. They proceeded to the second floor and saw eight men. Tsang Tim Kwai was not there, and they started to return. On descending the stairs they met Tsang Tim Kwai, and arrested him and proceeded upstairs again. The native detective then asked defendant whether his name was Tsang Tim Kwai, but defendant said it was not. The detective thereupon inquired of the eight men, and three or four of them said that the name he just mentioned was right. The man was taken to the station and charged.

His Worship remanded the case until Tuesday next at 2.15 p.m.

DANCE AT THE MASONIC HALL.

Dancing held sway in the Masonic Hall on Tuesday, where 150 couples met and tripped several merry hours away. It was the occasion of the second monthly dance arranged by the Masonic Quadrille Club, and proved quite as enjoyable as its predecessor given a month or so ago. For this mention must be made of the President, Mr. H. N. Wolfe, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. J. W. King, who together with the Committee, were responsible for the arrangements. With good music, a fine floor and comfortable surroundings the function was delightful, and speaks well for the success of future dances. Mr. Olive, A.S.C., presided at the piano, while the M.C.'s were Messrs. McCaffrey, R.E., Sergt. Avenell, A.O.C., Sergt. W. H. E. Smith, R.A., and Mr. S. Parkinson. The dance commenced shortly before nine o'clock and was continued until one o'clock the next morning when the programme of eighteen popular dances was brought to a close.

ALLEGED FORGERY.

At the Magistracy on Thursday, before Mr. Sercombe Smith, Leung Yung, bedroom boy of the Hongkong Hotel, appeared in the dock charged with having committed forgery by altering a bill of the Hongkong Steam Laundry from \$7.43 to \$10.48 and thereby obtaining the sum of \$3 by false pretences. Mr. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist) asked His Worship for an adjournment, which was granted.

The case was resumed somewhat later and a shroff of the Steam Laundry was questioned by Mr. Grist. The duty was to see that the bills went to the laundry, and when they were returned, to see them distributed. The bills are made out at Causeway Bay and sent to him at the Hongkong Hotel for collection. He then hands them to the room boy, who receives the money, and gives a receipt. He remembered the defendant receiving the bill in question, but he did not receive any money in return. Mr. G. H. Allen, manager of the Laundry Company, sworn, said that he wrote to the person to whom this bill was made out regarding payment of the same and the gentleman answered his letter enclosing the receipted bill, but saying that he had paid \$10.48 to someone. He also asked for an explanation. Sergeant Emer gave evidence to the effect that he arrested defendant in the corridor of the Hotel and explained the charge. Defendant said that he had the money up stairs in his pocket. He accompanied him to the third floor, and another room boy then handed defendant \$21.55. He denied having forged the bill. Defendant stated that he handed another boy in the Hotel \$21.55 in the presence of a Chinese sergeant, and got it back in silver from the boy when the European sergeant arrived. The money consisted of dollars, half dollars and small coins. The boy stated that he paid defendant the money referred to in notes. The case was remanded until yesterday when the boy was discharged.

THE *Kohunin* is responsible for the welcome news that China will hold an industrial exhibition in the near future. With this object in view Sheng Kunggao has asked the Department of Agriculture and Commerce in Tokyo for a copy of the publication relating to the recent exhibition at Osaka. These publications are not yet forthcoming, but as soon as they are prepared, they will be sent to Sheng.

THE HONGKONG CRICKET LEAGUE.

A meeting of representatives of the clubs interested in the above League was held on Tuesday evening in the Craigavon Cricket pavilion, Mr. W. D. Braidwood presiding. The following were appointed office-bearers for the season:—

President:—T. Sercombe Smith, Esq.
Vice-President:—W. D. Braidwood, Esq.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.:—Mr. A. E. Asger.

COMMITTEE.

Geo. P. Lammert (Hongkong Cricket Club), A. O. Brown (Craigavon), Lieut. A. C. Butt, R.M.L.I. (H.M.S. *Tamar*), Sergt. Major Wilson (R.A.M.C.), L. Cpl. J. C. Lillywhite (A.O.C.), Widows (R.E.), L. E. Brett (Civil Service), B. K. Mehta (Parsees).

The clubs will not now subscribe for a trophy as was at first intended, as the *South China Morning Post* has very generously come forward with an offer of a suitable silver shield, which has been gratefully accepted.—Contributed.

FIRES IN THE HARBOUR.

At about half-past eight on Wednesday a fire broke out in one of the bunkers of the steam-launch *Wing Fat*, belonging to Mrs. Mary Mah, which was lying alongside a pier near the Yau-mat ferry wharf. The fire brigade under Chief Inspector Baker was quickly on the scene and, with the aid of the floating engine and a hose from the shore, the flames were soon extinguished. The fire originated through spontaneous combustion, and the damage done is about \$50.

Shortly after seven o'clock on Thursday another fire occurred in the harbour and the brigade, with Chief Inspector Baker, were promptly on the scene. The fire broke out on a large trading junk which was heavily laden with merchandise. The boat was anchored near the old Canton and Macao wharf, and the floating engine arrived with the utmost speed and got to work, but the flames were soon gained control of the boat and it was towed to another junk to Chung-Sha Wan and beached. The brigade worked hard on the boat but without results, and, when they left, it was entirely gutted. The fire is believed to have originated in the galley; the damage is estimated at between six to eight thousand dollars.

VOLUNTEERS IN CAMP.

Saturday afternoon the Volunteer Artillery Corps was inspected by Major Brown, C. R. A. A strong muster turned out and drill was gone through with the 15th B. L. and Maxim guns and the inspecting officer expressed his satisfaction at the marked improvement shown by the corps. Saturday was a quiet night and a considerable number of visitors put in an appearance. Owing to the evening being somewhat cold the concert took place in the dining-tent, which was crowded to overflowing with an appreciative audience. Banned by the weather, the performance ended, however, with a marked success. Cento gave his promised juggling act to perfection, considering the limited space at his disposal. On Sunday morning there was a practice parade at 7.30 a.m., and at 10.45 the volunteers formed up, under the orders of Major Pritchard and were inspected by Colonel Brown, O.C.G., who was received with the usual honours. On conclusion of the ceremony, the commanding officer addressed the corps as follows:—

Major Pritchard, Major Chapman, officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, I am greatly pleased with the manner in which you have stuck to your work, the marked improvement which I find on to-day's inspection and your excellent appearance on parade. I have received a most favourable report from the C.R.A. with regard to the Artillery. I am also in receipt of a report from the C. R. E. which commends the Engineer Corps and which I will now read you:—"I am well pleased with the work that has been carried on, and have inspected the men who seem to take a real interest in what is going on; but I regret the falling off in the strength of the unit which is, at present, only 20 strong instead of being at its full limit of 60. I hope that the members will do their best to induce their friends to fill up the vacancies." Every facility exists in the different forts and stations on the island for the members to make themselves efficient and, I am pleased to say, we have obtained a grant for the erection of a new engine-house at West Battery, Kowloon. A site has been kindly given by the government, plans are to hand and the machinery will arrive shortly. I should ask the men to bear in mind that the training they receive in the corps will most probably be of profitable use to them in their professions."

The inspection over, the corps grounded arms and marched to church in the dining-tent. Owing to the gloomy weather, visitors commenced to arrive in camp at 11 a.m. Many ladies came over and the scene was an animated and gay one, the bright costumes of the fair sex and the uniforms of the men in khaki showing at their best in the clear sunshine. A scratch football match was organised and, at 4 p.m., the game was in full swing; Wicheh's team eventually proved the victors. As in former years, no volunteers in uniform were allowed to leave camp without the necessary pass. However, it was noticeable that quite a number obtained permits and left in the evening, owing probably to the night promising to be a very chilly one. Camp broke up on Monday and the men returned to town at 8 a.m. The majority took brown and fitter for their few days under canvas.

CANTON NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

CANTON, 3rd November.
LI KA CHEUK.
 The native newspapers have been telling about the execution of Li Ka Cheuk which took place last week. Shortly after the present Viceroy came to Canton Li Ka Cheuk was recalled and on his arrival in Can was put in prison. It appears that some soldiers under his control committed some depredations in the south of the province. Some Catholic chapels were destroyed. For this destruction Li Ka Cheuk was held responsible. To some who were better acquainted with the methods pursued by the Viceroy Li Ka Cheuk's position was considered a very serious one. Yet few believed that he would be executed. It is true that years ago Li was at the head of some robbers and gained his office as magistrate by giving up to the officials some of his former friends. But during his time of office Li had made many friends and these friends stood by him for a while. When they found that their efforts were of no avail they left Li to his fate and denied having been friendly to him. It was in the year of this Li that the Gage-street murder was planned.

THE VICEROY.
 The Viceroy continues under the care of the foreign doctor. It may be that after his month's leave has expired that he will be further excused. It is rumored that the Viceroy has said that he cannot live in the south and wants to be sent north. It is certain that the Viceroy has not gained the affection of the people and very little sympathy is expressed for him in his present trouble. This is quite a contrast to the feeling of the people when Viceroy Tao Mu lay sick. Then on every hand expressions of sympathy were heard.

IMPROVEMENTS.
 A wonderful change has taken place on the river at Canton. The "Flower Boats" have all been moved. Visitors to Canton must have noticed the large boats just below the steamer landing. These boats have anchored in this place for years. Year by year the number has increased. For some time it has been difficult to keep the boats from occupying the space necessary for the steamers to pass up and down. Many attempts have been made to shift the boats but without success. A few days ago the boats were served with notices to move. The new anchorage is just at the head of "Dutch Folly." The river is now clear from the steamer towards down below the Missionary Society's Hospital. The shifting of these boats has made a decided improvement in the appearance of Canton. The Chinese say that the foreigners want the old anchorage to build houses upon. Others say the "bund" is soon to be built and this space is needed.

CHAN TING WAI BEHEADED.
 When Viceroy Shen returned from Kwangsi he was met by a number of small guard boats and steam launches. When the crackers of welcome were let off a bullet flew past the head of the Viceroy. Because of this the man at the head of the guard boats was arrested and kept in prison. Last Monday he was beheaded. There was no evidence to prove that the shot was fired by Chan Ting Wai but he was responsible for the conduct of those under him and had to pay the penalty. He was executed on the common execution ground. There are many reports because of the way the trial was conducted. The small officials say that it is impossible to get an impartial trial.

LI KA CHEUK.
 The native papers are in error in saying that Li Ka Cheuk has been beheaded. He is still in prison. A few days ago he was thrust into the inner prison from which few men come forth unless it is to go to the execution ground. The Chinese regard Li's case as hopeless. The fact is he has not the money to buy himself free. A number of friends are willing to help, but their purses are not deep enough. The ex-Nam Hoi Poy, who was relieved from office shortly after Viceroy Shen arrived, has contributed over \$30,000 towards the Viceroy's expenses and as a result he is likely to be allowed to live. The newly dismissed Nam Hoi, Wong Sung, has been compelled to contribute \$10,000 towards the Viceroy's amusements. No Viceroy of the two Kwangs has forced so much money out of the officials under him. This may be better than squeezing the people, but it is certainly amounts to the same thing. The more the Viceroy squeezes the more the men under him squeeze. It is rather amusing to hear the expressions of pleasure from the people who rejoice that the Viceroy is squeezing the officials.

CANTON, 5th November.
EXECUTIONS.
 Eleven men were beheaded at the public execution grounds two days ago. Among these were the head guard of the Nam Hoi Yam. This man was accused of taking bribes and demanding money from those who had cases at the yamen. The charge was easily proved and the man tried to escape. He got out of the yamen under the pretence of going to the barber and then tried to leave the city. He was captured, and immediately sent to the execution ground.

THE EX-NAM HOI MAGISTRATE.
 The ex-Nam Hoi magistrate Poy has been on trial for two days at the Pao Yu office. The charges against him are under one head "extortion." It is well known that this magistrate made a very large fortune while in office. Already he has been mulcted of \$300,000 by the Viceroy. If he is able to free himself from the clutches of the law, as represented by the present Viceroy, he will have little of his fortune left.

HOSPITALS THREATENED.
 The Wai Oi, Kwong Tsai, and the Canton Hospitals have been served with a notice to pay a large sum of money within a certain given time or have their premises destroyed. This is most likely the work of some low fellow who wished to play a joke. No notice is taken of the letters sent and there is no probability that the threat will be carried out. Even robbers have enough sense to let benevolent institutions, such as the above, alone. Some low scamp has sent the letters to create some excitement, but he has failed in his purpose.

A DEATH AT THE RAILWAY.
 A Mr. Wilson, who has been employed at the railway, died this morning, and will be buried this afternoon.

TIENTSIN.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

TIENTSIN, 22nd October.
 There are more native soldiers in the capital than I recollect to have seen before, so much so that the fact led me to inquire. There are over 5,000 "police" otherwise soldiers round the Palace precincts. Twenty thousand are being kept in excellent drill at Tungchow, besides those at Paojing, so the North is not so badly off for troops as has been sometimes stated. Chang Chi-tung recently presented a secret memorial to the throne urging that all foreigners including the Mis-

ters be requested to leave the Forbidden City and that a site outside the sacred walls be selected as the "foreign quarter." What reply has been given to this enlightened proposal I do not know, but it is perhaps in harmony with the information gleaned from various quarters that there is a covertly hostile spirit in Peking. The French Legion is I notice getting into position two disappearing guns. I do not know whether this is the correct name for them. They are being mounted on solid concrete platforms and drop out of sight after each shot is fired.

Na Tung has gone to Tientsin to lay presents for the Empress Dowager. There are not supposed to be any, but this assiduous official knows better than not to have some ready. A great deal of money has been reaching the Court for some time past from Tientsin.

MR. W. MORGAN SHUSTER.

Among the passengers arriving from Manila, per the *Zufro* on Tuesday, was Mr. W. Morgan Shuster, Collector of Customs at Manila, who is leaving for the United States, where he will spend a well-earned vacation. Before departing from the Philippines a farewell dinner was given and was attended by every civil and military official of prominence in Manila. Governor Felt spoke in his best praise of the guest of the evening and, according to an exchange, the praise was not of the artificial kind so often heard at banquets, but came straight from the heart and was applauded to the echo. Commissioner Ide followed the Governor with a humorous address speaking in glowing terms of the Collector. Mr. Shuster replied in words abounding in appreciation of the high honours heaped upon him.

YONG AM-PHO.

It is now a matter of frequent occurrence for travellers, when passing Yong Am-pho, to be detained by the Russian gentry. Yong Am-pho is situated on the left bank of the Yalu River, which is the boundary between Korea and China. From a military point of view Yong Am-pho has little importance. Yong Am-pho is merely an anchoring harbour for small coasters, and the distributing port for goods going into the interior. It is, however, an important place for trade. The reason the Russians are so anxious to get a lease of the place is mainly in order to try to obtain the monopoly of the trade of northern Korea and to bring the country under their own sphere of influence. This fact can be proved by Russia's attitude upon the opening of the Manchurian ports in the neighbourhood. Though there may be some Russian military preparation in that district, yet this is either merely to protect the Russian Timber Felling Company's claims or to terrify the Korean authorities. The building of forts or batteries at Yong Am-pho at this date and upon the pretext of a Russian invasion, is a mere farce and of no real value. In case of a military standstill, in case of war between Japan and Russia, if such unlikely contingency should arise, Yong Am-pho would be of no use as a site for forts or as a strategic point. For Russia, Changhai Bay is beyond comparison the most important port at which to have a naval base between Vladivostok and Port Arthur.—*China Gazette.*

RUSSIAN RAILWAY SCHEME IN MONGOLIA.

is any power likely to protest against Russia's scheme for the railway conquest of Mongolia? If not Great Britain, surely Japan will protest against it. But it is becoming clearer that Great Britain will not take any part against such a Russian move, even though her interests in various provinces enumerated in this article, i.e. Shansi, Kansuh and Chihli might be hampered by this projected railway. The notes exchanged between Sir Charles Scott and Count Mouravieff on the 28th, April, 1899, recognize the Russian right to establish railways outside the Great Wall. The British Government will therefore never utter a word against this projected railway. The other powers have no interest of any kind whatever in the matter and even Japan has nothing special to say as she has no direct relations with Mongolia, which is too far away in the interior from Manchuria and North China. With Great Britain and Japan acquiescing it is easy for Russia to push on her schemes in Mongolia without any protest or obstruction from outsiders.

Those powers are suggested before Russia is allowed to complete the conquest of Mongolia, as she has consummated the conquest of Manchuria.

1. Either Japan or Great Britain should get the concession for building the railway between Kalgan and Tientsin;
 2. The opening of Kalgan to international trade.

As mentioned in this article Kalgan is the gateway of all trade with Mongolia. The relation between Kalgan and Tientsin is just about the same as that of Hankow and Shanghai. Let us see for a moment what are the lines of trade mostly carried on in Kalgan. The most important articles exported from that place are sheep wool (which amounts to 40 million piculs per year), camel's wool, which is all exported to Tientsin on the back of camels and mules. The number of camels passing through Kalgan down to Tientsin before the winter sets in is from 10,000 to 15,000. From this it can be seen that the business of Kalgan has an intimate bearing upon Tientsin. The chief imports from Tientsin to Kalgan are tea and general merchandise.

The trade districts served by Kalgan are the whole of Mongolia, the basin of the upper part of the Yellow River, and Kansuh. Mills for woolen textile factories are yearly increasing in number in Japan and there is accordingly a great demand for wool, both of the sheep and camel. Even though the quality may be inferior to that from Australia, yet the Japanese demand for wool should be quite easily supplied by Mongolia. If such a supply of wool is to go to Japan the construction of a railway between Tientsin and Kalgan and the opening of Kalgan to international trade will be a matter for Japan.

But if the powers most interested sit still at present and if nothing is done at once, the whole of the trade of Mongolia and Kansuh and the neighbouring provinces will pass into the hands of Russia alone.

The problem of Mongolia is hardly less pressing than that of Manchuria; but it has not yet attracted international interest. It is time attentions were given to it by the outside world.—*China Gazette.*

THE TRANS-SIBIRIAN MAIL ROUTE.

The *Shanghai Times* says that two mails were received in that port on the 23rd ultimo, for the very first time by the Siberian route from Europe, and the time of transit being only 23 days it established a record, inasmuch as this is the first time the Sib-fian route has been tested for eastward mails. The mails which were received were dated the 1st and 2nd October which shows that they can be brought here by about 10 or 12 days earlier than those sent via the Suez Canal. This new route is at present only used by the German and French post offices. The British Post office says they are unable to use the route owing to their low postal tariff, which renders it impossible to pay the high Russian transit fees. The Imperial Chinese post office, however, uses this route, but owing to not sending the letters in sealed bags, objection is raised that letters are liable to be detained in transit by the Russian postal authorities.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN MANILA.

On the night of the 26th ultimo a godown belonging to Messrs. Macleod & Co., situated at the corner of Calles Principe and Lara, was almost completely destroyed, together with its contents, about 4,500 bales of hemp, the value of which is roughly estimated at 16,000 pesos. The building was solidly constructed, with iron walls and a galvanised iron roof. Every possible effort was made by the firemen but the roof fell in and the mass of hemp had been consumed before the fire could be got under. Information is to hand to the effect that the godown and its merchandise were fully insured, though news has not yet transpired as to the companies that are interested in the loss.

PHILIPPINE ISLAND EXHIBITS

FOR ST. LOUIS WORLD'S FAIR.

All the ships of the Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company which have called at Manila of late have brought through Hongkong vast quantities of exhibition specimens, enough to build a whole village. Dr. Gustave Niederlein, of the Exposition Board, who is in charge of the Insular Government's exhibits, sailed from Hongkong on the rebuilt liner *China*, of the P. M. S. S. Co. on Friday, accompanied by his two secretaries. On the way across the Pacific they will catalogue the extensive list of plants, animals, curios, etc., and upon arriving at St. Louis Dr. Niederlein will superintend the housing and instalment of the exhibits. No time, money or brains have been spared in the effort to give the Philippines good representation at the Fair. Every tribe, industry, art and profession of the Islands will be faithfully represented, and the American people, both in the Philippines and at home are taking the keenest interest in the great scientific and educational work.

ABOUT JAPAN'S BIG RICE CROP.

The Japanese are now harvesting the best rice crop they have had in ten years. They expect to get nearly 8 million koku or not quite 25 million bushels. This is about 15 million koku above last year's crop. At 12 yen per koku this will give the farmers an income of 120,000,000 yen above what they got last year, so they can celebrate their Thanksgiving Day this autumn with much genuine enthusiasm. An extra bounty of 12 million yen is something to rejoice over, and would be especially so if Japan should be led into a war in the near future. Japan's rice crop is worth more than any other product of the country, so if she can find some way of increasing her rice output she can add much to the wealth of the country. The total amount of cultivated land in this empire is about 12 million acres, or about one-tenth of the area of the state of California. It is said that there are 15,000 acres of good up-land in the province of Hyuga alone that can be turned into excellent rice fields with proper system of irrigation. Local authorities in Bungo, Hyuga and in other parts of Kiushiu have been doing some excellent work during the past few years in the way of irrigation and turning dry fields into excellent rice land. They have even cut tunnels through mountains for the purpose, but only about 1,500 acres out of the whole available district has yet been reclaimed. Land thus turned into good rice fields increases five or six times its original value. It is a paying business and it only requires a few years to pay back the cost of constructing the irrigation works. I was given these facts by one who has been prominently connected with the work already done. If the Japanese Government could set aside a few million yen, say the cost of one cruiser, as a permanent irrigation fund, it would prove to be one of the greatest helps to national wealth that they have ever undertaken. The last U.S. Congress set aside such a fund for the arid west and it is universally acknowledged to be the wisest piece of legislation undertaken for many years. The American people, too, are beginning to open their eyes to the possibilities of money making and the good food there is in rice. All those low lands in southern Louisiana and Texas are being turned into great rice fields and many millions of dollars have been invested in the preparation of the field and irrigation canals. They are beginning to employ Japanese labour and Japanese rice seed which is considered better than the rice used there heretofore. The land being level and rich and with proper canals the supply of water is unlimited, so they can produce rice at a comparatively small cost when they get it good way. One man has predicted that they will be shipping rice from Texas to China and Japan in the near future, just as the north-west is now shipping flour by the shiploads. One can hope that this may speedily be done if it will provide the millions in this country with plenty of cheap food. Millions of people in Japan cannot afford to eat rice except as a luxury on special occasions. I know of a man with a family of seven being supported on a monthly salary of 15 yen, or a little over two yen each. I know another one, the headmaster of a country school who gets a salary of 17 yen and he gives one half of that every month to pay off the debts of his dead father, and with the other half he supports himself, wife and two children. I know a woman who gets a salary of 13 yen and she supports herself, her mother and sister and helps keep a brother in school. These are not low class poor people, they are educated and wear good clothes. They live well compared to many others. It is almost incredible how little these people can live on when they try, and again it is astonishing how they can make the money fly when they get it and get in the swim.—*Ex.*

It is stated that the Russian administrator at Newchwang proposes to organise a Municipal Council with two British and one American member, their decisions to be subjected to the administrator's approval.

WARSHIPS AT KOBE.

Kobe harbour is now the rendezvous of quite a number of foreign war-ships, there being yesterday no fewer than ten at anchor here, reports the local *Chronicle* of 27th ult. These vessels included the British 1st-class battle ship *Ocean*, the 2nd-class twin-screw cruiser *Talbot*, the gun-boat *Bromhead*, and the twin-screw sloop *Algerine*; the German cruiser *Bussard* and the gun-boat *Jaguar*; the Italian cruiser *Vittorio Pisani*; and the U.S.S. battle-ship *Kentucky* (the flagship of Rear-Admiral Evans), the cruiser *Oregon*, and the gun-boat *Annapolis*. It was thought yesterday that the *Aver*, an U.S. vessel, would remain here for some time, but orders were issued in the afternoon for the *Kentucky* to proceed to Yokohama, and the *Master-at-Arms* and other of the ship's officers were ashore last evening recalling all the ship's company at once. The vessel was to leave for the northern port this morning, this sudden order being thought to be due to the fact that Rear-Admiral Evans is at present seriously ill, the trouble being the result of wounds in the knee received some years ago during active service.

The stay of the British vessels will vary. The *Ocean* was to have remained here until Friday, but we understand she leaves for Yokohama to-morrow night. The crew of the British battleship has been making extensive preparations for the illumination of the vessel by electricity in honour of the Emperor of Japan's birthday, but the residents of Yokohama will now have the benefit of this display. The *Bromhead*, according to present arrangements, leaves port on Friday for Nagasaki, while the *Talbot* (Captain Bayly's ship) will probably remain here at least ten days. We also learn that the *Albion*, the flagship of Rear-Admiral the Hon. A. G. Curzon-Howe, C.V.O., C.B., C.M.G., the second-in-command of the British fleet on the China station, is expected to arrive here to-day or to-morrow.

ACCIDENT TO A RUSSIAN STEAMER.

The Dutch torpedo boat *Sphinx* which arrived at Colombo on the 17th ultimo from Europe, reported having spoken the Russian Volunteer Fleet steamer *Kiev* in Lat. 8° 22' N. and Long. 72° 4' E. The *Kiev* had lost one propeller, and was proceeding west with the other screw steaming about seven knots. The *Kiev* arrived at Colombo on the 12th ult. from Singapore, and left the next day for Odessa via Perim.

THE E. & A. CO'S S.S. "EMPIRE."

THE YACHT OF THE PACIFIC AND THE CHINA SEAS.

The precision which characterised the departure of the E. & A. Company's steamer *Empire* on the stroke of noon on Wednesday, following upon her record-breaking trip of 18 days, of course, has been a long time in the shipping circles, but called forth unstinted praise from regular passengers, round-the-world tourists, and theatrical identities alike. All whom our representative has seen agree that a passage in the *Empire* through the Eastern Seas is an ideal yachting trip, says a Sydney paper. On her recent smart trip from Hongkong to Sydney, the Rev. J. Nesbit, a well-known English clergyman, who held Divine service on board, at its conclusion, made a graceful departure from the conventional by addressing Captain Helms in terms of warm eulogium of himself and officers and the E. & A. Company generally. Said Mr. Nesbit: "My wife and I and many of our fellow-passengers are now about to enter upon the last segment of our circle round the world, and I can sincerely say that, after many thousands of miles of travel by land and sea, we shall ever regard that section of it from Japan by China to Australia in your beautiful steamer *Empire* as one of the brightest and most delightful experiences of our lives."

HONGKONG BOUND SHIP

SHORT OF PROVISIONS.

The *Palgrave*, a large four-masted ship of 3,078 tons, anchored in Watson's Bay, Australia, on 8th ult., after a protracted passage. She is from New York bound to Hongkong, and her voyage thus far occupied 140 days. The vessel is compelled to make for Sydney to replenish supplies, the stock of provisions on board having been almost exhausted owing to the long passage. The *Palgrave* had a trying time, the log-book showing a combination of heavy weather. She left New York on May 20. In the North Atlantic gales were experienced, and again after passing the Cape of Good Hope. She was roughly handled in the gales which raged as she made her easting. The squalls at times were of hurricane fury, and the accompanying heavy seas swept over the vessel, without, however, doing any serious harm. The *Palgrave* made a dash towards the end of September, and she had a further spell of stormy weather off the coast, during which she was driven as far north as Seal Rocks.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

POINTS FROM THE REPORT.

Through the kindness of the local agents (Messrs. Holme, Ringer & Co.) we have been able to glance through the annual report of that remarkable corporation, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, for the year ending June 30th, 1903, and which was put before the shareholders at Montreal on the 7th ult. The general details of the report have not an interest at this distance sufficient to induce their quotation, but one is repaid by a glance at the wonderful figures of the company's business. Their gross earnings for the year were \$4,957,373, and their working expenses \$1,820,527 or 63.97 per cent. The net earnings are, therefore, 36.03 per cent, or \$1,536,846. The report speaks incidentally of the expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars to be spent in the acquisition of other and smaller railroads, and goes on to mention briefly that "the land sales for the year amounted to 2,639,617 acres, for the price of \$6,095,672." These figures are calculated to induce shortness of breath, but at least they prepare one for the statement which closes the report, to the effect that the shareholders will be asked to authorise the Directors to expend capital \$4,500,000. They pale in insignificance when we turn, however, to the condensed balance sheet, which is headed by the line "Cost of Railway and Equipment." \$124,769,210.31. One cannot help that first thoughtless question as to what that odd cent was expended. Lower down we find that the cash in hand amounts to more than nineteen million dollars; and a page or two further on we are met by the statement that acquired securities held total about eighty-four million dollars. Last, but not least, one finds that the Company controls a railway mileage of a little more than eleven thousand. Only a Rockefeller can read such a report as this without emotion.—*Nagasaki Press.*

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

INTERVIEW WITH THE MANAGER.

SOME INTERESTING FIGURES.

At the last meeting of the council of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, the president, Mr. G. S. Littlejohn, reported the result of an interview with Mr. C. H. Reynolds, general manager of the Pacific cable, regarding certain improvements which he had secured for the commercial community.

Mr. Reynolds, said the president, stated that correction messages would be called for free of initial charge to the merchant, who would pay ultimately, only in the event the cable being proved correct. That was a great concession as persons using the cable were at present obliged to deposit the cost of calling for the correction and the cost of the reply. It had also been arranged for commercial firms to make deposits of fixed sums of money to stand against their cables until exhausted, an advantage in comparison with the existing system, whereby cables must be prepaid in cash. Mess-ges would also be issued in duplicate, as was now done by the Eastern Extension Company.

With regard to the establishment of independent offices in Sydney, Mr. Reynolds said the Pacific Board would not undertake the expense, as it would involve the contributing Governments (the partners of the cable) in the heavy expense of rent and management. The board should have the advantage of the postal and telegraph organisation of the Australian Governments. They did not wish to go to the expense of erecting a separate wire to Southport (Queensland). Mr. Reynolds considered that if the public thought the national all-red route deserving of a fair share of business, they would support it. Every effort would be made to deserve success. The cable, in his opinion, would prove invaluable in time of war. The board intended to gain for their customers all facilities enjoyed by the users of the Eastern route.

The cable, Mr. Reynolds pointed out, was only opened for traffic in December last, consequently three months' revenue was all that could be set off against 24 years' expenses from the first initiation of the business. The figures were:—

Expenditure—24 years to March 31, 1903..... £120,000

Revenue: Three months of above period ending March 31, 1903..... 18,310

Deficiency..... £101,690

That loss would have to be made good by the parties to the scheme somewhat as follows:—

United Kingdom..... £28,055
 Canada..... 28,055
 Victoria..... 11,222
 New South Wales..... 11,222
 Queensland..... 11,222
 New Zealand..... 11,222

The estimates for the next financial year, to March 31, 1904, were:—

Interest..... 77,545

Head office..... 4,400

Cable stations..... 26,100

Repairing ships, salaries, etc., 19,500

Renewals and depreciation..... 35,500

Miscellaneous..... 2,555

Total..... £165,500

It was anticipated that the receipts for the year would amount to £73,400. The result of the year's operations would, therefore, probably be:—

Expenditure..... £165,500

Revenue..... 73,400

Deficiency..... £92,100

The loss would have to be apportioned amongst the Governments concerned in the following proportions:—

United Kingdom..... £25,409
 Canada..... 25,409
 Victoria..... 10,172
 New South Wales..... 10,172
 Queensland..... 10,172
 New Zealand..... 10,172

The total loss for the two years would, therefore, not fall far short of £193,790, of which the New South Wales share would be £21,394. The interest charge, £77,500, would remain stationary for 50 years, but at the expiration of that period the money borrowed to construct the cable would have been repaid, and that annual charge would thereupon cease.

Australia, Mr. Reynolds said, paid one-third of the annual charge, but it was to be remembered that we were paying off the cost of the cable in instalments, and were laying up money for a new cable, besides writing off depreciation on buildings and ships. The traffic was up to the estimate made by the Parliamentary committee, and he hoped that with increased prosperity in Australia the traffic would improve, and justify the estimates made, which calculated on a 10 per cent. increase each year. The drought had so far prevented that forecast being realised.

The objects of the cable were to strengthen the ties of the British Empire, and to relieve this great continent from the disadvantage of having only one company to depend on.

"COCKTAILS" FOR FIVE.

A good story is told against a well-known and extremely popular marine superintendent in Sydney. The gentleman referred to was at one of the dinners of a steamer trading between Australia, China, and Japan. It was the rule of the service for the captain to conduct Divine service on board every Sunday. On one particular Sunday the captain had some friends in his cabin, and the number included Mr. (now Sir Malcolm) McEachern. The captain, not noticing that it was near the hour for church, rang his bell, and the "boy" having answered the summons, was ordered to bring up five "cocktails." While the boy was away the church bell tolled, and immediately the captain and his friends left the cabin for the saloon. A few minutes later, to the amusement of the passengers, the boy arrived in the saloon carrying a tray bearing the five cocktails. He took up his position alongside the parson-captain, the latter being just about the middle of the first prayer. It is said that the service was not stopped, but the "boy" disappeared after one glance from his master.

BRITISH v. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

BRITAIN LOSING PRE-EMINENCE.

According to a London telegram of the 29th September, the *Times* says that Great Britain is rapidly losing her pre-eminence as the world's carrier.

The foreign share of the shipping trade in foreign ports is, the *Times* says, increasing by 12,000,000 tons annually, while Great Britain's share has diminished from one-half to one-third. Foreign tonnage in British home ports, the paper continues, is increasing thrice as fast as British; but British shipping retains predominance in the colonial trade, "though some of the colonies treat British shipping as unfairly as foreigners do."

"Any retaliation against foreign shipping," adds the *Times*, "necessitates the cordial and continuous support of the colonies."

AN INCREASED GOLD PRODUCTION.

ITS EFFECT ON THE MONEY MARKET.

For the last week of September the amount of gold coin and bullion held by the New York Associated Banks, the Bank of England or available on the Continental Money Markets were simultaneously reported to be satisfactory beyond any expectation. Despite the large demand usual at this time of the year for the clearance of transactions connected with the harvests and despite the close of the quarter, the Discount rates everywhere could be left unaltered, although a new rise had been anticipated almost as a certainty. This fact deserves to be specially noticed as a clear and satisfactory indication that the available amount of gold in circulation or in the vaults of the Bank suffices for the present requirements of trade and international exchange. "The dragging of the cable over 100 short for its claimants," as Bismarck used to characterise the situation in the period of an appreciable dearth of gold in the beginning of the eighties of last century, seems to have subsided; for otherwise just now, after the crisis in the Stocks and Shares Markets, it might have been reasonably expected that the National Banking institutions would have been quite determined to prevent a decline in their specie. That there was no keen competition for attracting gold to the vaults of the Banks, may be explained from the fact that, on the whole, sufficient reserves are available in consequence of the extraordinary rapid increase of the production of gold during the last twelve years. When Bismarck coined his epigrammatic saying, the production of gold was at the lowest ebb. The world's production of gold amounted from 1851 to 1880, on an average, to 195,300 kg. a year, declining to an annual output of 173,000 kg. in the period from 1871 to 1880 and even to 154,960 kg. from 1881 to 1885. Therewith, however, the minimum was reached. It is true that even the average of the five following years (1886 to 1890) remained behind the average production in the period from 1871 to 1880. But since 1891, the South-African gold fields turned the tables, yielding results that left all earlier recorded figures behind them, and year for year beating their own record, until, in 1899, the climax was reached. In that year, the world's production of gold was estimated to be 44 times larger than in 1851. From the natural decline during the war of 1900 and 1901 the production of the Witwatersrand field recovered almost entirely, already in 1902.

In the ten years from 1891 to 1900 the world's production of gold amounted to not less than 430 million kg. As the gold in circulation or deposited in the Banks was, in 1891, estimated at only 740 millions; and as of the newly unearthed gold not much more than 120 millions will probably have been absorbed for industrial purposes, we arrive at the conclusion, that the amount of gold available for monetary and banking purposes was, in these ten years, increased by two-fifths of its total.

It is now clear that this rapid increase of available gold made it, in this period, comparatively easy for the countries going over to the gold system to accumulate the necessary reserve and find within a short time. Austria-Hungary reached the culmination point of her gold purchases already in 1893, Russia was hoarding gold principally from 1891 to 1898, Japan could successfully introduce the gold standard in 1897. As now the most urgent requirements for the monetary stability of these countries have been fulfilled, and as for the future large purchases of gold may be expected only from Mexico and China, it is to be presumed that this state of saturated complacency as regards gold will be maintained for some time. If now, the large production of gold is kept at its present height, it may be anticipated that the purchasing power of gold in the world's market is more likely to diminish than to be increased, and that the calamity of permanent reductions in the prices of manufactured goods on account of an insufficient supply of gold will not, as in the seventies and eighties of last century, occur again in the present decade.—*Ex.*

JAPAN AND MEXICO.

The Mexican Government, which has recently enacted strict quarantine regulations against Chinese emigrants, has now notified the application thereof to Japan also, and that ships from Japan and China are allowed to call at Manzanillo alone. Mr. T. Sugimura, Japanese Minister Plenipotentiary there, is protesting on the basis of the commercial treaty between the two countries. The *Japan Times*, editorially dealing with this step on the part of the Mexican Government, says that it will be the result of the pressure brought to bear upon it by the men, mostly capitalists and manufacturers, interested in the introduction of Chinese labour and in discriminating against the Japanese. The Mexican Government exposes itself to the serious charge of infringing the most favoured nation clause in the Japanese treaty with that country.

COMMERCIAL.

PUNJONS.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., informs us that a telegram was received from the mines on Thursday stating that the mill starts again on the 5th instant, 15 stamps running.

RAUB REPORT.

The general manager's report for the four weeks ending 10th Oct., 1903, is as follows:—The mine measurements, and assay results of prospecting work, prepared by the mine manager, show a total of 148 ft. for the period (4 weeks) under review, made up of 32 ft. sinking, 91 ft. driving, and 25 ft. crosscutting, as against a total of 225 ft. for the previous four weeks.

Mines.—New Main Shaft.—This has been sunk 20 ft.

to effect a junction between the air shaft and the 140 Level where the standing ground is sound and safe; 13 ft. has been driven.

140 ft. Level South: cross-cut to air shaft. This has been extended 2 ft., making a total of 19 ft., and is now finished. The last 2 ft. was to make room for necessary shafts.

140 ft. Level North: Winze from Intermediate Level. An additional 12 ft. has brought the total depth to 17 ft., and served to connect with the drive below from the main No. 3 winze. The lode averages 36 in. wide and 13 dwt. per ton.

140 ft. Level North: Drives on parallel branch. After striking a bunch last month in the cross-cut, drives were put off north and south, and a total of 25 ft. has been driven in both ends the bunch has disappeared, and driving has been stopped. The bunch averaged a width of 60 in. and an assay of 18 dwt.

140 ft. Level North: cross-cut for shaft filling. 23 ft. of this work has been done.

Stopes. The following stopes are in operation: Above the 300 south: 1 stop; lode 6 in. wide, work 7 dwt. Above the 200 north: 1 stop; lode 6 in. wide, work 7 dwt. Above the Intermediate: 4 stops; lode 6 in. wide, work 7 dwt. Above the 140 North: 1 stop; lode 6 in. wide, work 7 dwt. Above the 140 North: 1 stop; lode 6 in. wide, work 7 dwt.

Plant and machinery continue without much change. The concrete foundations for Cornish pump-bob-pit at Koman old shaft are almost complete. The pump rods, of the best 8 in. by 8 in. timber, are prepared for fixing; the 12 in. plunger of Cornish pump is in order, and ready to be lowered; and suitable bearings and a cistern have been fixed at the 340 ft. level.

The 140 ft. level has needed lots of new timbering, which has materially increased our costs under "ore raising," but this work is now nearly through.

Cyanide.—After endless experimenting, we have at last mastered an exceedingly simple method of treatment for our tailings; based on entirely new matic lines, involving no previous concentration, no complicated machinery, and no delicate chemical reactions. We are so satisfied with our laboratory tests that we have commenced preparing a site for the plant, which will ultimately deal with 150 to 200 tons daily. The erection of this will be accomplished mainly with local materials and coillie labour. We believe we can count upon a 75% recovery from 2 dwt. tailings at a working cost of less than one dollar per ton including everything. Separate Milling Return and Cost Sheet herewith.

Milling Return for 4 weeks ending 30th Oct., 1903. Stamp work: 100 tons. Period of work: 24 days less 2 1/2 days (25 hours) of which 1 hour was lost to stoppage, and remainder to mill.

Mill duty: 100 tons stamp per stamp per 24 hours. Amalgam yield: 2 1/2 dwt. per ton milled—75% of contents.

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Sydney Wollongong.—Is in a very interesting state, business is as dull as it can possibly be.

RICE.

Messrs. W. G. Hale & Co. writing from Saigon, on 23rd ult., state:—

During the period under review, business has not improved in any way; the dullness hitherto reported has proved, on the contrary, more acute than ever. In sympathy with the general lack of demand, prices fell rapidly and considerably. There is virtually no market price at present. The figures we quote below are quite nominal and just to give an idea of the latest drop. Holders of remaining stocks of paddy, which are roughly estimated at about 300,000 piculs (mostly of Cambodia grain) are losing heavily. Rice Mills are all more or less without any work and most of them will soon shut down for their annual clean up and are not likely to reopen until the next season. New Crop.—The weather has proved perfect and if it continues so for another month or so, there is every reason to expect a bountiful harvest, although somewhat late.

YESTERDAY'S INTELLIGENCE.

Quotations close as follows:—

Banks ... 363 1/2 L'don 60
China Traders ... 361
Indo-China ... 361
Douglases ... 361
Star Ferries ... 361
Shell Transport ... 181-6
China Sugars ... 361
Docks ... 361
Kowloon Wharves ... 361
Farnhams ... 361
Hongkong Lands ... 361
Hongkong Hotels ... 361
Ice ... 361

YESTERDAY'S EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON, Telegraphic Transfer, 1/9 13/16
Bank Bills, on demand ... 1/9 13/16
Credits, 3 months' sight ... 1/9 13/16
ON BERLIN, (demand) ... M. 1.86
ON PARIS, Bank Bills, on demand ... 2 29
Credits, 3 months' sight ... 2 29
ON NEW YORK, Bank Bills, on demand ... 44 1/2
Credits, 3 months' sight ... 44 1/2
ON BOMBAY, Telegraphic Transfer ... 13 1/2
On demand ... 13 1/2
ON SHANGHAI, Telegraphic Transfer ... 7 1/2
Private to days' sight ... 7 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA, T.T. ... 8 1/2
Sovereigns, Bank's Buying Rate ... 11 1/2
Gold 100 touch, per tael ... 57 00
Silver ... 27 1/2

OPIMUM QUOTATIONS.

Yester day's quotations are as follows:—
MAGWA NEW ... 880/910
LAST YEAR ... 960/1,000
OLD ... 1,115
NEW ... 1,115
PEKING (PAPEL) ... 750/830

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

AN Association Football Club has been started at Nagasaki.

QUARANTINE restrictions have been withdrawn against Shanghai.

H.E. the Governor has proclaimed Nagasaki an infected port.

A TIENSIN despatch says that France has restored to China all the land occupied by her since the eventful 1900.

THE German gunboat *Tiger* has been undergoing repairs at the Kawasaki Dockyard.

ON the evening of the 28th October 10 degrees of frost were registered at Newchwang.

THE completion of twelve first-class torpedo boats is being rapidly pushed forward in Japan.

THE *Echo de Chine* reports that the repairs to the M. M. steamer *Australien* will cost francs 150,000 (£6,000).

ANOTHER instalment of the series of articles dealing with the sugar industry is printed on the third page.

THE steamer *Duke of Fife* has been sold to Messrs. Morioka & Co. of Tokio, and is renamed the *Itakushima Maru*.

MESSRS. Hall & Holtz, Ltd., Shanghai, have declared an interim dividend of two dollars per share, payable on the 16th inst.

SEÑOR DE FREITAS has been appointed by the King of Portugal his first Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan.

It is reported in Japan that Russia cannot fight because she has been unsuccessful in raising a loan in France and Germany.

It is reported that early on Tuesday morning about a score of dead bodies were found floating in the vicinity of the Lyemun Pass.

Le *Courrier Saigonais* states that several cases of cholera have occurred among the French troops in garrison at Haiphong.

TWO Japanese naval constructors are going to Shanghai to fit up the Thornycroft gunboat *Sumida*, which is coming out from London in pieces.

A NEW free library for Osaka is nearing completion. It contains nineteen rooms, which include private reading rooms for the lady visitors.

It is officially announced that the rank of Japanese Minister to Siam has been promoted to Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

Mr. Edward Coutts, third son of the late Mr. J. C. Coutts, of Shanghai, was married on the 24th ult. at Kobe to Miss Evelyn Tripp, of Tulsa Hill, London.

TELEGRAPHIC advice was received at Shanghai on 24th ult., that all the missing members of the *Benjamin Galloway*, except two men and one woman had been recovered.

A MINING expert, sent out from home by the Sandakan Bay Coal Fields Co., Ltd., is said to have confirmed the reported existence of an extensive coal bed at Serudong in Borneo.

A CHINAMAN was picked up in the sea, off Kishu, clinging to a life-buoy. He said that he belonged to a British steamer which was wrecked on the 24th ult., but he could give no details.

THE Mitsui Bishi Co. gave a grand banquet at Nagasaki on the 24th ult. to Mr. A. L. Jones, the retiring representative there of Lloyd's Register, and Mr. A. Heron, his successor.

THE Emperor will personally command the military manoeuvre near Himeji, from the 13th to the 16th of this month. They will be attended by Russian, Chinese, and Korean officials.

THE Colonial Secretary informs us that a telegram has been received from H. B. M. Consul at Batavia to the effect that quarantine restrictions against Hongkong have been removed.

RETURNS for the week ending 31st October, 1903, give the number of cases of communicable diseases in the Colony as follows:—one case cholera, fatal (Japanese), and two cases of fever (European).

It is reported from New York that, in case Russia and Japan came to an understanding in the present negotiations at the cost of China, Great Britain would demand compensations in the Yangtze Valley.

Mr. Dang Chee, of Des Voeux Road, but late of Tunut, forwarded a silver cup, valued at 158s., to be competed for at the Railway Hospital. meeting, held at Tunut, Australia, on 12th and 13th ult.

THE Japanese and English texts of the Japan-China Treaty were signed at Shanghai on 30th ult. by the Japanese Commissioners Mr. E. Hiki and Mr. Odagiri, and the Chinese Commissioners Liu and Sheng.

A PETTY officer of H.M.S. *Exeter*, while out riding at Hakodate, collided accidentally with a Japanese, causing his death. He was tried on a charge of accidental homicide and sentenced to a fine of ¥50.

THE number of intending exhibitors in Japan who have up to date applied for permission to send their goods to the St. Louis World's Fair is 1,542. The goods to be sent by these exhibitors are valued at ¥3,303,300.

MR. J. C. Mortensen, late accountant of the Great Northern Telegraph Co. at Shanghai, has been found dead in his room under circumstances evidently pointing to death having been self-inflicted with a revolver.

THERE is a report in Peking to the effect that a censor—a Hunanese of course—has denounced Viceroy Tsen of the Two Kwang provinces, accusing his Excellency of recklessness and other misdemeanours.

THE S.S. *Pelayo*, which arrived from Sumatra on Thursday, passed several abandoned junks in the neighbourhood of Hongkong. They must have formed part of the fishing fleet that was overtaken by the recent storm.

THE Straits Government has promised to give careful consideration to any scheme put forward by the Municipality of Penang for housing the poor who became homeless through the pulling down of houses by the Municipality.

It is stated that three more cases of plague were reported in Yokohama on the 19th ult., while news from Nagasaki is to the effect that cholera has broken out in the city, the *Asahi* giving the number of cases as 19 in all.

A CONTRACT between the Brazilian Government and Messrs. C. H. Walker and Co. of London, involving £5,000,000, for harbour and dock improvements at Rio Janeiro has just been signed. Work is to begin in January.

THE S.S. *Maha* arrived at Singapore on the 23rd ult. with the news that the Dutch mail steamer *Koningin Regentes* had been successfully loaded off the Brom Brom Shoal on the previous day. No damage was done to the vessel.

WE are advised by the Colonial Secretary that a telegram has been received from the Secretary to the Government of Burma to the effect that quarantine restrictions against vessels arriving from Hongkong have been removed.

INFORMATION is to hand to the effect that it was not the boilers of *Amiral Gueydon* that blew up and occasioned the loss of that steamer, but that the accident was due to the explosion of a considerable quantity of dangerous cargo stowed on deck.

It is reported in the *Tung Shin Hu Pao* that the Feng Shin, Governor of Kwangsi, has sent his representative, a prefect, to Shanghai to negotiate with a foreign firm for a loan of Tls. 1,000,000 to defray the expenses of the military operations in Kwangsi.

THE Japanese Consuls at Port Arthur and Dalny have issued proclamations assuring the people that there will be no war, and exhorting Japanese merchants and traders there to carry on their respective callings, and not to permit themselves to be misled by unfounded rumours.

THE *N. C. D. News* says it is understood that the Diplomatic Body at Peking has unanimously decided that the "Supa" prisoners must be tried at the Shanghai Mixed Court as originally agreed with the Taotai, and that an early date must be fixed for their trial.

THE stock of coal now stored for the use of the Russian squadron is thought at Tokyo not to exceed 100,000 tons. A movement is on foot among the great Japanese mine-owners and coal-exporters to discontinue the sale of coal to Russia at the present juncture.

THE departure of 500 Japanese emigrants to Mexico, has been postponed by the authorities owing to a rumour that the Mexican Government has decided to enforce the Chinese Exclusion Act against the Japanese, despite the treaty existing between Japan and Mexico.

FROM this month, until further notice, not more than 75 male and 35 female labourers will be permitted to proceed to Hawaii, the sugar producers having decided to reduce the number of labourers in their service in consequence of the decline in the sugar market.

REGARDING the quarantine restrictions imposed by Hongkong against Nagasaki, we learn that cholera is very bad at the Port, over forty cases having been reported. Both foreign and Japanese ships are said to have stopped provisioning there and the market is considerably affected.

AT Newchwang on the 28th ult. a football match was played between teams of H.M.S. *Exeter* and an eleven composed of officers and engineers of the different ships in port. After a hard struggle victory rested with the *Exeter*, who secured three goals to their opponents' one.

THE *China Gazette* reports that the Japanese Legation in Peking is kept exceedingly busy at present, and the clerks are working day and night. Some of the Government students in Peking are even now assisting in the great mass of business that has to be got through at the Legation.

It is stated that the steamer *Kheron*, which was purchased recently by the Russian Ministry of Marine from the Volunteer Fleet, is to be known henceforth as the *Lena*, and has been enrolled in the Russian Navy. The *Lena* is to be used as a transport vessel, and she will be attached to the Kwantung Fleet equipment.

THE *Japan Times* says that it is "not probable that, notwithstanding her ostensible warlike preparations, Russia may not be ready for an appeal to arms, and she may have consequently shown signs of a spirit of peace and conciliation which her attitude in the initial stage of the present crisis did not warrant us in expecting."

THE steamer *Hansa* which arrived at Shanghai on 2nd inst. from Swatow reports that a terrific typhoon occurred at that port, about a week ago. The typhoon was the heaviest ever known in that part of China by the oldest inhabitant. The *Hansa* was five days making the passage from Swatow.

NEWS of the death of an old and respected member of the seafaring community has been received at Shanghai. Mr. J. J. Clements, chief engineer of the s.s. *Fungshing*, died at Newchwang from kidney trouble after a very brief illness. He leaves a widow and five sons, with whom much sympathy is felt in their sad loss.

A RECENT issue of the *Dalni Vostok* reports that the Muletski works at St. Petersburg have started work on a steamer to the order of the Russian Navy. She will be used for supplying fresh water to the Russian Pacific Squadron and will be named the *Vodolozh*, No. 2. The vessel will be despatched to the Far East as soon as she is launched.

CAPT. H. Textor, of the German steamer *Chow Tai*, which arrived from Bangkok on Monday, reports having experienced stormy N.E. winds. He says they have come across a considerable quantity of wreckage and derelict fishing boats. Yesterday he took nine Chinese off a battered junk and another three from off a fishing boat.

A RUSSIAN transport carrying recently 100,000 barrels of corn and wheat to Manchuria, landed its cargo at Antung, yesterday. No sooner was it landed than the grain was transported by horses overland to Feng Huang Chen. The latter city was garrisoned by 600 men, and the garrison has been considerably reinforced by 600 more men with 12 field guns.—Ex.

DR. Masujima, counsel for the owners of the steamer *Firth of Dornoch*, which was provisionally attached at the instance of Messrs. Cornes & Co., deposited on 21st ult. at the Kobe Ku Saibansho the sum claimed. The Kobe Chronicle understands the attachment was removed on 22nd ult. The amount deposited by the applicant to the Court for the issue of an order of attachment was ¥30,000.

LUI Kuang Tsai, the newly appointed commander-in-chief of Kwangsi, has enlisted a few regiments of recruits at Chang Sha, Hunan. General Lui is taking great pains in the drilling and arming of his new men. From the number of recruits being enlisted in service, it appears that Chinese attach more importance to the number than the quality of their fighting men.

WE are advised by the Consul General for the Netherlands that, vessels arriving in Netherlands-India from Hongkong are no longer subjected to quarantine, the port of Hongkong being declared to be no longer infected with plague. The prohibition on importation of certain goods is also cancelled so that all merchandise can now be imported into Netherlands-India.

THE *Daily World* of Vancouver announces the death by drowning of sub-lieutenant Pearce, R.N., of H.M.S. *Clara*, Lt. Pearce and a brother officer were sailing a small boat in Sitka harbour when a sudden squall capsized the craft. Owing to the icy cold water, Lt. Pearce was unable to maintain his hold on the overturned boat and sank before assistance arrived.

A BEAUTIFUL chalice and plate, the gift of the congregation of St. Joseph's Church, Singapore, to Father Soares reached here last month from America, says the *Singapore Free Press*. This hard working priest, who has been in ill health for some months, has retired from active service and is now residing in Manila. The chalice and plate were forwarded to the Bishop there, who made the presentation to Father Soares on behalf of the congregation.

WOOL was one of the chief lines in the cargo for Japan by the Japanese mail steamer *Kumano Maru* arriving on Tuesday from Australia. She had 200 bales from Sydney, and space was secured for another 200 bales from Brisbane. Other cargo from Sydney included 500 tons of lead, 200 tons copper, 200 tons fertilizer, 50 tons rolled lead for China and Japan, and 100 tons of compressed fodder and a quantity of butter and other produce for Manila.

A NORTHERN Chinese newspaper states that on the 24th ult. Prince Chien and Lien Fung, Vice-President of the Waiaup, jointly called on the Japanese Minister in Peking and after a quarter of an hour's time, the Prince, Lien Fung, and the Japanese Minister went together to the United States Legation to hold a secret conference with Mr. Conger. Although it is noted round the neck of the man behind him and so on the last end being held by the guard so that any attempt at bolting would have ended in the strangling of the lot.

THE *Chefoo Express* states that eight Chinese were brought over here under guard from Port Arthur by the *Novik* on her last trip. They had evidently been breaking the law there in some way. Rather a novel though very effective plan was used to prevent them from escaping while going through the streets. The first prisoner had a running noose round his neck, the end of which was attached to the neck of the last man in the line, and so on the last end being held by the guard so that any attempt at bolting would have ended in the strangling of the lot.

THE popular commander of the N.Y.K. liner *Asahi Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, celebrated his seventieth birthday during his last voyage to Seattle. The passengers subscribed for a silver loving-cup which was presented to the veteran navigator. Captain Ekstrand has been navigating Japanese vessels for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for the past 24 years. He is now master of the best vessel of the company's fleet and the largest passenger steamer flying the Japanese flag. He will shortly be given command of a new liner, to be built by the company for the Hongkong, Yokohama, Victoria, and Seattle route.

THE *Avenir du Tonkin* announces that the Siamese Government has negotiated, through the U.S. Minister at Bangkok, a loan of one million sterling at 5%.

The loan is to be covered in America and payment of same will be by instalments during a period of twenty years.

M. LESSAR, the Russian Minister at Peking, is strongly opposing the opening of Peking to international trade, but neither the British, American nor the Japanese Ministers seem to care much about the point and the opening of Peking will not likely be carried out for a year or two.

MRS. Campbell, of Shanghai, who arrived at Yokohama on the 19th ult. on board the steamer *Empress of India*, missed at the Western Hotel in the same afternoon her handbag containing seventy-five yen in cash and £300 Chartered Bank bills. She immediately reported the occurrence to the water police.

A NOTICE to mariners intimates that the Chuankiang beacon light was exhibited for the first time on the 17th ult. The illuminating apparatus is dioptric, of the sixth order, showing a fixed red light. The beacon is on the point on the left bank of the river immediately opposite the lower end of Jocelyn Island.

THE *Bourse Gazette* urges the Russian Government to acquire some harbour in Corea in order to secure freedom of movement for the Squadrons between Vladivostok and Port Arthur. The *Novosti* has an article in which it endeavours to demonstrate Japan's inability to raise the funds that would be needful for a war.

THE Japanese residents in Fusan, who numbered 9,691 at the end of last year, had increased to 11,388 at the end of August last. When the fishermen (about 3,000) temporarily stationed there and the labourers residing along the railway from Fusan are included, the total number of the Japanese will exceed 20,000.

THE N. D. L. S. *König Albert*, which left Hamburg on the 15th ult., has naval reliefs on board for Shanghai, which consist of 30 officers, 32 petty officers, and 21 men. Notable among the officers is His Imperial Highness Prince Adalbert, son of the German Emperor, who, it is understood, is to join the German flagship *Hertha* in Hongkong.

MR. Leung Pui Chi, the popular comprador of the German Bank in Hongkong, has found it imperative to resign his onerous position in favour of a relative of the comprador of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China. Mr. Leung is connected with a large number of business firms in Hongkong, besides being a director of quite a number of Chinese Banks. The call upon his time by his own extensive business compels him to sever his connection with the German Bank.

THE Japanese shallow-draught gunboat *Hamada* which was lately brought from England in sections was taken on board the N.Y.K. European liner *Kanagawa Maru*, sailing from Yokohama at noon on the 25th ult. for Shanghai. The new gunboat will be put together at the Chinese port, and is then to be commissioned for the Yangtze service. Materials for another Japanese gunboat *Fushimi* are also expected at Yokohama shortly from England. This boat will also be constructed at Shanghai.

THE Russian steamer *Mongolia* from Dalny upon arriving at Nagasaki reported that there were three Russian warships in Port Arthur. One of these was in dock. There were thirteen warships, all painted a dark grey, at Taitienwan. Some ships of the Volunteer fleet armed as cruisers were with them and there were also fourteen torpedoes there (i.e., Dalny). The report about Viceroy Alexieff returning to St. Petersburg is not credited in Port Arthur. The Japanese residents in Dalny and Port Arthur are quiet.

MANILA exchanges state that the Japanese army is at present in condition for the best work possible and it is believed that half a million men, in excellent training and trim, can be put into the field at once. No official details concerning the strength of the army have been allowed to transpire during the past two years, but in 1899 the *Almanac of Gotha* gave the total as 431,674 men, of whom 154,636 were in activity. The sudden dropping of all mention of the army

